

Sincerely yours.

Wm. D. Lee.

Sept. 9. '10



Book of Family Worship



**Being Selections from Scripture
and
Prayers for Use in the Home**

**Chosen and Composed by
Rev. William D. Lee**

Dedicated to our Homes



**TORONTO
WILLIAM BRIGGS
1910**

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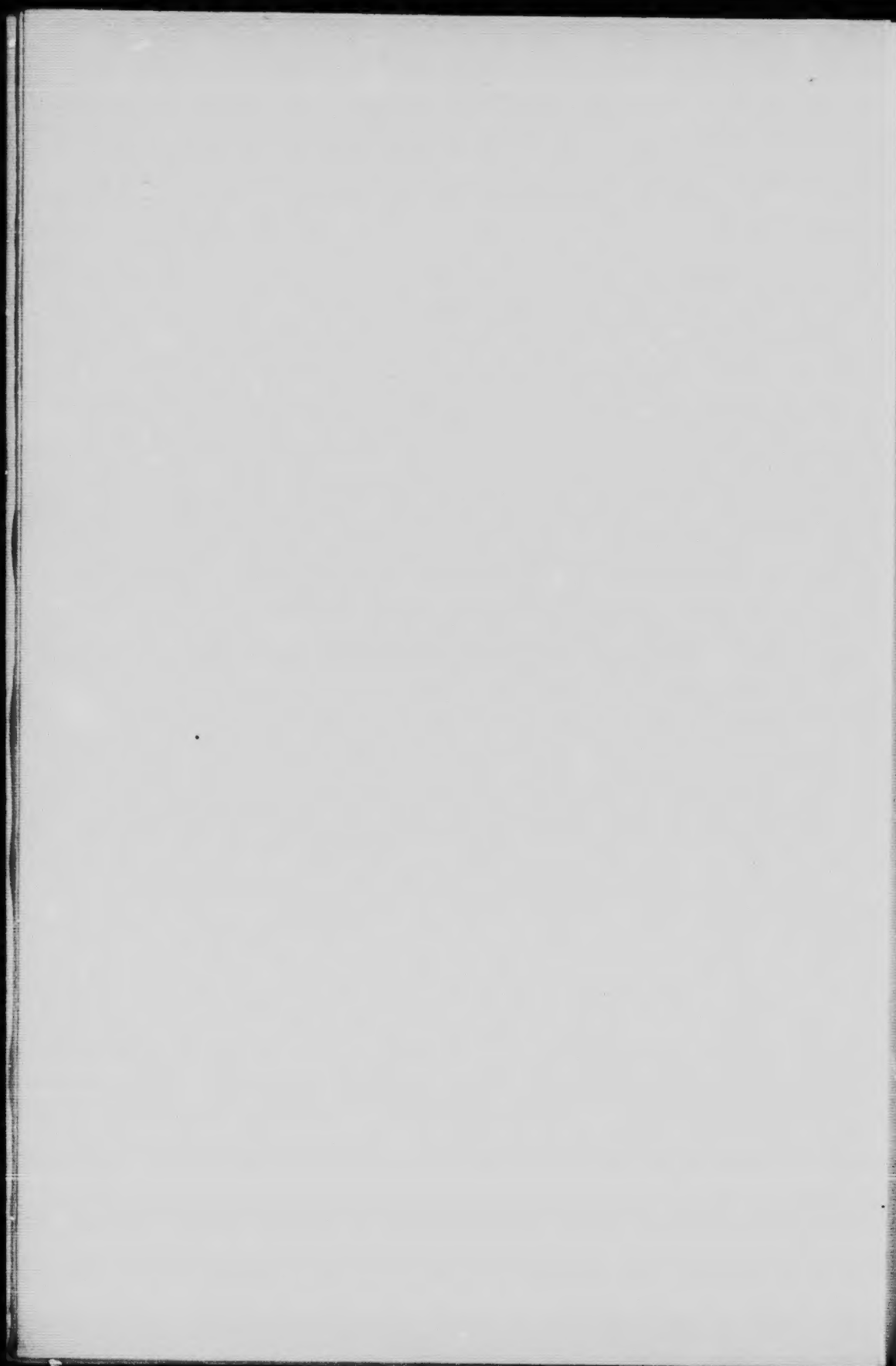
PREFACE

¶

THIS manual for family worship is an effort to supply a need which I have met with in my work as a minister, and the desire to supply it came to me, I believe, as an inspiration, or I should never have attempted such a task. The decline of the practice of having prayers, of setting up the family altar, is a serious question indeed; the present and future welfare of our country depends upon our home life; it must be kept sacred and holy, and the means for the conservation and promotion of it is PRAYER, individual prayer and family prayer. Many, however, have not the gift, although they have the heart and will, to conduct even a simple service in the home, without some aid to assist and stimulate their thoughts. To meet this condition is the object of this manual. Prayers are also given at the end for Special Occasions. Humbly this result of meditation and supplication is sent forth, with the earnest desire that it may be a stimulus and inspiration to family prayer and so be a blessing in many a home, and, above all, be for the honour and glory of God. The request of the disciples must also ever be ours, nevertheless: "Lord, teach us to pray."

WILLIAM D. IRE.

The Manse, Waterloo, Ont.,
April, 1910.



PRAYER

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
Uttered or unexpressed,
The motion of a hidden fire
That trembles in the breast.*

*Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.*

*Prayer is the simplest form of speech
That infant lips can try;
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach
The Majesty on high.*

*Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,
Returning from his ways;
While angels in their songs rejoice,
And cry "Behold, he prays!"*

*Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air,
His watchword at the gates of death:
He enters Heaven with prayer.*

*O Thou by whom we come to God,
The Life, the Truth, the Way!
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod;
Lord! teach us how to pray.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into tempta-
tion; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and
the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

REVISED VERSION

OUR Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy
Kingdom come. Thy will be done as in Heaven so on earth.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as
we also have forgiven our debtors. And bring us not into
temptation; but deliver us from the evil one. For Thine is the
Kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

GEN. 1. 1-19.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise. Psalm 75

Scripture Selection

1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3. And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.

4. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

5. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

6. And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

8. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9. And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11. And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

12. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

13. And the evening and the morning were the third day.

14. And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15. And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

17. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth.

18. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

19. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Prayer

OUR FATHER, which art in heaven, for Thy beloved Son's sake, be pleased to hear us when we call upon Thee in prayer. With humble and contrite hearts we come into Thy Holy presence; many are the sins which Thou hast rightly charged against us; forgive us, we beseech Thee, for His sake, and accept, not only our confession, but also our grateful acknowledgment of all Thy loving kindnesses and tender mercies towards us. As we look back over our past lives the way is strewn with innumerable mercies, and in this present we are abundantly blessed. We thank Thee for all Thou hast given, whereby our lives have been made glad and happy, and our prayer is, that whatever days may yet lie before us, they also may be crowned with choicest blessings. The future

is Thine, take care of it for us; here and now help us by Thy grace truly and faithfully to serve Thee. May the Sabbath be unto us the best day of all the seven; may this one remind us more than ever of the Sabbath of rest that remaineth for the people of God. Bless our home this day; favour us with a sense of Thy presence, and when the day closes and we fall asleep, may we have the assurance that we have made a Sabbath day's journey nearer Home. Hear this our prayer, and accept us; only for Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

GEN. 1. 20-31; 2. 1-3.

Monday

Scripture Selection

20. And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

21. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

22. And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

23. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

24. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

25. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

26. And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created

he him; male and female created he them.

28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

29. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

31. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

1. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

2. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

3. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we gather round our family altar to worship Thee in the name of Jesus. Let us feel that we are in Thy presence; give us the assurance in our hearts that Thou art

listening to us. We thank Thee that we have been spared to resume our daily calling and work in life. We thank Thee for the measure of strength, physical and mental, we enjoy; and we pray that it may be continued unto us. Abundantly bless us in our daily labour, whether it be in the home, or among the busy marts of men. Help us to remember the injunctions of the great Apostle in Thy Holy Word, "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God"; and also, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." We thank Thee for the privilege of service; let it ever be joyous and not irksome, uplifting and not depressing, since we work, not merely for men, but for God. Pardon our sins for Jesus' sake. Be near to us through the closing hours of the day, and throw around us Thy mantle of care and love when we lose ourselves in sleep; and with the morning light awaken us, strengthened and refreshed for new duties and responsibilities. Bless those whom we love and hold dear. These things we ask only for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

GEN. 2. 4-25.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

4. These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

5. And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

6. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

7. And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

8. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

10. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and

from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

11. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;

12. And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

13. And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

14. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

15. And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

18. And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

19. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field: but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

21. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his

ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

25. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, help us humbly and reverently to approach unto Thee. We rejoice to learn through Thy Holy Word that Thou hast made us, and not we ourselves. We praise Thee that not only hast Thou created us by Thy special power, but in Thine own image, and into our nostrils hast breathed the breath of life, and so we feel our kinship with Thee; and we thank Thee that through Redemption we are brought into fellowship and communion with Thee. We adore Thee for Jesus Christ, Thine Only Begotten Son, who took upon Himself our nature, became bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. He lived for us, He died for us, He rose again from the dead, and now exalted at Thy right hand He ever maketh intercession for us. For His sake hear us when we pray for pardon of our sins. For His sake bless us now as we kneel before Thee. For His sake guard us through this day, and when night comes may we fear no evil, for wilt Thou be with us to comfort and protect us. We ask all in His Name, the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

GENESIS 3.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2. And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4. And the serpent said unto the

woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.

7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they

were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field:

19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20. And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

21. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

22. And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

23. Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Prayer

HEAR us, we beseech of Thee, O Lord, when we pray unto Thee. Bless unto us the reading of this portion of Thy Holy Word. In Adam we have sinned, but likewise in our own selves. Even during this day our lives have not been perfect before Thee; have mercy upon us and drive us not from Thy holy presence for Christ's sake. We praise Thee that the way of access is now open into the Holy of Holies through the rent veil of His flesh. Thus we would come at this time to offer up our prayer unto Thee. Be pleased to hear us in Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest, O Lord, forgive. For all Thy goodness bestowed upon us this day we are grateful; every gift we enjoy is from Thee. Continue thus to show favour unto us, and bestow, not only temporal mercies, but also spiritual

blessings. May our lives become more like Christ's, so that men taking knowledge of us will say that we have been with Jesus. Bless us each one, and let Thy presence always be in our home, gracious Saviour. Upon us may there ever rest the sunshine of Thy smile. We ask all only for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

ROMANS 5.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4. And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

5. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us.

6. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

10. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

11. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

12. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13. (For until the law sin was in

the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

15. But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

16. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

17. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

18. Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners; so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21. That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer

Now we kneel before Thee, O God, in the attitude of prayer. Check every wandering thought, and help us truly to mean what we say when we pray. Forgive us our many sins, for Christ's

sake, and help us by Thy grace daily to die unto sin, and to live unto holiness. Give us a lofty ideal of what our Christian life should be; may it ever and only be to attain unto the stature of the perfect man Christ Jesus. For any little progress we have made through Thy strength we bless Thee; let us not be discouraged because we proceed so slowly. Having once put our hand to the plough, may we not dare to look back, lest we should become unfit for the kingdom of God. And we now ask for Thy blessing upon our home and the friends we love, and for all these we thank Thee. Remember those who are far away, surround them ever with tender care, and when our journey is ended may we all meet in our Father's house, to go no more out for ever. We ask only for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

PSALM 19.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3. *There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.*

4. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun;

5. Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

6. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

7. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple:

8. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the com-

mandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes:

9. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and the honeycomb.

11. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12. Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

13. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

14. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Prayer

LET the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable now in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer, for Christ's sake. Listen to us, we humbly beseech Thee, when we pray for the forgiveness of our sins; cleanse our guilt in the blood that flowed on Calvary, and we shall be clean, yea, whiter than snow. Give unto us a wide outlook; forbid that our vision should be narrow and confined. May we delight to

look up into the heavens which Thine own fingers have framed, for they declare the glory of God; and the God who made them made us; the God who preserves and controls them is none other than our God, our Father which art in heaven. Keep us from presumptuous sins; let them not have sway and rule over us. Free us, we pray Thee, from their control, and help us to rejoice in the liberty wherewith Christ maketh His people free. Now we commit ourselves into Thy keeping and care, O Lord; forget us not, when, alas! we often forget Thee, and do for us above that we can ask or even think, for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIRST WEEK.

1 CORINTHIANS 13.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6. Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7. Beareth all things, believeth

all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8. Charity never falleth; but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away.

9. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

10. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

11. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

13. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Prayer

IN Thy mercy, our Heavenly Father, we have come to the closing day of another week, and we desire with grateful hearts to worship Thee. We thank Thee that while we have gone out and come in no evil has befallen us; by night and by day Thy care has ever surrounded us; Thou hast clothed and fed us with a generous hand, and gratefully own Thy goodness. Pardon our great unworthiness and be pleased to continue unto us Thy mercies, for Christ's sake. We would thank Thee, also, not only for that which Thou hast given, but for that which Thou hast withheld, for which we have longed or even prayed. Help us to

trust Thee, believing that Thou knowest best. Thy wisdom is infinite, Thy love unlimited. And now bless us with every needed blessing; may this week close over us in peace, and by our rest during the night may we be fitted for the privileges and duties of a coming Sabbath. Guard us through the night, and may we awake in the morning pure and fresh and sinless in Thy Holy eyes. Hear our prayer, and answer us graciously, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

MATTHEW 12. 1-21.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 200

Scripture Selection

1. At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat.

2. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.

3. But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him;

4. How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?

5. Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?

6. But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple.

7. But if ye had known what *this* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

8. For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

9. And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:

10. And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him.

11. And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out?

12. How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore is it lawful to do well on the sabbath days.

13. Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth: and it was restored whole, like as the other.

14. Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

15. But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;

16. And charged them that they should not make him known:

17. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

18. Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall show judgment to the Gentiles.

19. He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.

20. A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.

21. And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

Prayer

We thank Thee, O Lord, for the Sabbath, for all it means to us, for all the joy and peace and rest it brings into our lives. We are glad the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. And as Thou hast been pleased to make it specially for our use, help us to appreciate and not abuse the gift. Let not the world with its cares and pleasures have a claim on us to-day, but may we spend it for Thee, and in Thy service. May the Sabbath be unto us "a delight, the holy of the Lord honourable." May the benediction uttered through Thy servant, the prophet of ancient time, rest richly upon us, "Blessed is the man who keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it." Be in our home, Lord Jesus, this day; walk with us; be with us as Thou wert with Thy disciples in the days of Thine earthly ministry, and may we enjoy fellowship with Thee all through its holy hours. Hear this our prayer, O Lord, and pardon our many sins, especially those committed in Thy worship and service, for Christ's sake. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

PSALM 34.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
2. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
3. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
4. I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.
5. They looked unto him, and were lightened; and their faces were not ashamed.
6. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.
7. The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.
8. O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
9. O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.
10. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.
11. Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
12. What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?
13. Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.
14. Depart from evil, and do good: seek peace, and pursue it.
15. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.
16. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
17. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
18. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.
19. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.
20. He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.
21. Evil shall slay the wicked; and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
22. The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants; and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

Prayer

GRACIOUS and Heavenly Father, hear us now we beseech Thee when we call upon Thee in prayer, for Jesus' sake. Let this sweet realm we have just read be a comfort unto us, may the experiences of Thy servant David be ours in a rich measure also in our times of need. Forgive wherein we are unworthy to come before Thee, O Lord, for Christ's sake. For the many mercies of this day we desire gratefully to thank Thee; all we enjoy comes from Thy loving hand. Bless us in life's duties, whether they be in our home, or away from it; bless us in following our daily calling. We thank Thee we are able to work, while so many are laid on beds of weakness and pain; we thank Thee for our powers of mind as well as those of body; be pleased to continue these unto us in an increasing measure. Now keep us through what remains of this day, and when it closes, may the night have no terrors for us when we lie down to sleep. And every mercy we ask is only in Christ's Name, and for His sake. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

ISAIAH 55.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. *I, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.*

2. *Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and your soul delight itself in fatness.*

3. *Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.*

4. *Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.*

5. *Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.*

6. *Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:*

7. *Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy*

upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

8. *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.*

9. *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

10. *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:*

11. *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

12. *For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*

13. *Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

Prayer

O LORD, once more in Thy goodness we are permitted to assemble ourselves in our family circle to worship Thee. We have read a portion of Thy Holy Word, and we praise Thee for the fullness and freeness of Thine offer of mercy to all who will truly seek Thee. Now we come, responding gladly to Thine invitation. May we incline our ear and come unto Thee, and hear, and our soul shall live. Make an everlasting covenant with us, even the sure mercies of David. Forgive us freely and bless us abundantly, O Lord, for Jesus' sake. Remember no more against us our former transgressions. Lovingly pardon the sins which we have committed, even those of to-day. May we know what it is to grow in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May Thy care be over us through all of this day, and when we seek our rest, even as a child in its mother's arms may we fall asleep, comforted by Thee. Listen to us and answer our prayer, we humbly ask for Christ's sake. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

LUKE 18. 1-17.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. And he spake a parable unto them to *this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint:

2. Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3. And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4. And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5. Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8. I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

9. And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10. Two men went up into the

temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

15. And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them; but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them.

16. But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

17. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

Prayer

OUR Heavenly Father, we would make the prayer of the tax collector of old ours also at this time, "God be merciful unto us, for we are sinners." And may the forgiveness he received be granted unto us also, for Christ's sake. Bless us as we kneel before Thee. Thou knowest that which we need and require; Thou knowest that which we long for; if agreeable to Thy Holy Will, be pleased to grant these, for Christ's sake. Many are the mercies we daily receive that we do not ask for, and we gratefully thank Thee for them, O Lord. Let the future be crowned with rich blessings for us, and when our days on earth are over, may it be ours through grace to enjoy for evermore those pleasures which are at Thy right hand. And now, O Lord, hear this our prayer, not because we are worthy, but for the merit of Jesus Christ, Thine Only Begotten Son, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

JOHN 10. 1-18.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
2. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
3. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.
4. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.
5. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
6. This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.
7. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
8. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
9. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
10. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
11. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
12. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
13. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.
14. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
15. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.
16. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.
17. Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.
18. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, our gracious and loving Heavenly Father, as we bow before Thee in the exercise of prayer may our hearts be solemnized. May the place whereon we are be holy ground. Let us feel we are in the presence of God. Forgive us, we humbly ask, all our sins, for Jesus' sake. Accept our grateful thanks for all Thy goodness unto us during this day. Thou hast preserved us in life, and protected us from dangers seen and unseen. O Lord, we thank Thee. Be pleased to watch over our home through the night; may Thine eye, which never slumbers nor sleeps, be upon us, and may we awake in the morning refreshed, prepared for a new day and its duties. And we pray not alone for ourselves, but for those whom we love. Keep them likewise ever in Thy tender care; may we all be one family in Christ Jesus. And we ask these favors only in His Name and for His sake. Amen.

SECOND WEEK.

PSALM 139.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me.

2. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.

3. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

4. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether.

5. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.

6. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

7. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8. If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

9. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10. Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

13. For thou hast possessed my reins; thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

14. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

15. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

16. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

17. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

18. If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

19. Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.

20. For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.

21. Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?

22. I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.

23. Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

24. And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Prayer

AND now, O Lord, we desire to call upon Thee in prayer, coming in the Name of Jesus. Thou hast been very kind to us, our unworthiness has not prevented Thy mercies from descending upon us. Keep us humble; keep us ever near the Cross; may its shadow ever fall across our pathway, and may we truly say with the great Apostle, "God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." We bless Thee for this wonderful portion of Thy Holy Word we have just read. Let this great truth of Thy infinitely minute knowledge of us not be a terror but a joy and a comfort to us. We rejoice that our substance was not hid from Thee. We are Thy handiwork, fearfully and wonderfully we are made. "How precious also are Thy thoughts unto us, O God, how great is the sum of them." May we delight to seek Thy presence, and to dwell in the light of Thy countenance. "Search us, O God, and know our hearts, try us and know our thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting," for Christ's sake.

AL.

SECOND WEEK.

HEBREWS 1.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3. Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4. Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

5. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

6. And again, when he bringeth in the first-begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

7. And of the angels he saith,

Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

8. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

10. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the work of thine hands:

11. They shall perish; but thou remainest: and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12. And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13. But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

14. Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, be pleased to hear us when we come before the footstool of Thy mercy. Thou hast in these last days spoken unto us by Thy Son, and we thank and praise Thee for the wonderful revelation He has given unto us of Thy wonderful love and mercy. Help us to trust Thee, to take Thee at Thy word. O Lord, increase our faith; may it grow clearer and stronger as the days pass by, until one day faith shall be lost in sight, and we shall "know even as also we are known." For the many mercies we daily enjoy we thank Thee; be pleased to continue Thy goodness unto us in an increasing measure, for Jesus' sake. Remember those whom we love and hold dear, whether near us or far away. The Lord bless and keep them all in His Holy care, and may we all meet at the end of life's journey in our Father's house, where we shall go no more out for ever. Mercifully hear this our prayer at this time; be with us through what remains of this day, and lovingly watch over us through the coming night, for Christ's sake. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

DEUTERONOMY 5. 1-23.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 357

Scripture Selection

1. And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.

2. The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

3. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

4. The Lord talked with you face to face in the mount, out of the midst of the fire.

5. (I stood between the Lord and you at that time, to show you the word of the Lord; for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying,

6. I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

7. Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

8. Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above,

or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

9. Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,

10. And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

11. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

12. Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee.

13. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

14. But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy

stranger that is within thy gates; that thy man-servant and thy maid-servant may rest as well as thou.

15. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched-out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

16. Honour thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

17. Thou shalt not kill.

18. Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

19. Neither shalt thou steal.

20. Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour.

21. Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his man-servant, or his maid-servant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

22. These words the Lord spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

Prayer

HELP us now, O gracious God, acceptably to draw nigh into Thy Holy presence. Give unto us the spirit of prayer, and enable us to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. We praise Thee for Thy continued goodness unto us, notwithstanding our many shortcomings. Be pleased to continue to bless us, for Christ's sake. May Thy law be not only in our minds, but also in our hearts. Say unto us "I am the Lord thy God," and may we gladly and loyally recognize Thy claim upon us, and ever give Thee that honor and glory which are Thy due. Pour down Thy blessings now upon us, we humbly beseech Thee; guide us through all this Holy Sabbath; guard us during the darkness of the night, and help us so to live that when Thou dost call us hence, we may be ready, ready by Thy mercy and grace to enter into Thy Heavenly Kingdom. Let Thy blessing richly follow the preaching of Thy glorious Gospel, both at home and abroad. Bless the work of our own beloved Church in the Home and Foreign fields, stand by Thy servants, our missionaries, and may their hearts rejoice at seeing many tokens of success. Let there be a great ingathering of souls this day, O Lord, into the Kingdom of Thy dear Son. For Christ's sake we ask all. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

ACTS 3. 1-18.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate

of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3. Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9. And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

10. And they knew that it was he which sat for a time at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

11. And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12. And when Peter saw it, he

answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13. The God of Abraham and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

14. But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15. And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

16. And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

17. And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.

18. But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

Prayer

IN Thy mercy, O Lord, Thou hast permitted us to resume life's daily work in the opening day of this new week. We thank Thee for physical strength and mental clearness, whereby we are able to do our daily work. Many there are who are unfitted for the common tasks of life either through weakness of mind or body. Thou hast not so dealt with us in Thy goodness and mercy, O Lord. Be pleased to continue these great gifts unto us, and may our powers be freely and fully consecrated to Thy service; may we glorify Thee in the use of them, in whatever we find to do, in whatsoever Thou dost give us to do, doing it with all our might. Strengthen us with might in the inner man; help us to fight the good fight and to run the straight race. Lord, let us not be discouraged nor lose heart by the way. Graciously forgive our sins, and be pleased to accept of our worship at this time, for it is offered to Thee, only for Christ's sake. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

LUKE 15. 11-32.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

11. And he said, A certain man had two sons:
12. And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
13. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
14. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
15. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
16. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
17. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
18. I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,
19. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
20. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
21. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
22. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:
23. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:
24. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.
25. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.
26. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.
27. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.
28. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.
29. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:
30. But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.
31. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.
32. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

Prayer

OUR Heavenly Father, we worship Thee in the Name of Jesus; hear us, we beseech Thee, for His Name's sake. We thank Thee for Thy unspeakable gift to us of Thine Only Begotten Son. We thank Thee for His marvellous teachings, for His wonderful words of life. For the message we have just read we thank and praise Thee, assuring us that even if we have wandered into a far country, there is a welcome—a loving, Fatherly welcome—

awaiting us if we will only come home. Lord, let us not stray away; and if, perchance, we have wandered, O incline our hearts to come back. Have mercy upon our sins and follies; take pity upon our weakness, and give unto us Thy pardon and Thy strength, for Christ's sake, so that we may no more stray into the paths of sin and shame. Bless us now each one as we kneel in Thy presence, and also those who are near and dear to us; Lord, bless us all and keep us ever in Thy Holy keeping and care. We ask Thee for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

MATTHEW 5. 1-20.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3. Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

4. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

11. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is

thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candle stick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

20. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Prayer

GRACIOUS Saviour, in Thy Name we draw nigh to worship the Father. Be pleased to intercede for us, so that we may be accepted in His Holy sight. We are very unworthy, therefore

cover us with the perfect robe of Thy righteousness, for Thy mercy's sake. Give unto us purity of heart, so that we may see God. May we so live by Thy grace that the blessings which Thou didst unfold to Thy disciples on the mount in the day of Thine earthly ministry may be bestowed upon and realized by us. May our light so shine that men may glorify Thee, our Father Which art in Heaven. For the blessings of this day we desire to thank Thee; Thou hast not forgotten us, though we, alas, have been very forgetful of Thee. Forgive us our many sins, we humbly ask Thee, O Lord, and be with us during what remains of the day; give Thine angels charge concerning us when darkness gathers and we fall asleep. Bless especially those whom we love; keep them ever in Thy holy care, and we ask these mercies in Christ's Name and for His sake. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

PROVERBS 10. 1-22.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

2. Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

3. The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.

4. He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

5. He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.

6. Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

7. The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

8. The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.

9. He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

10. He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.

11. The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence

covereth the mouth of the wicked. 12. Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

13. In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

14. Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

15. The rich man's wealth is his strong city: the destruction of the poor is their poverty.

16. The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin.

17. He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.

18. He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.

19. In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

20. The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth.

21. The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

22. The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Prayer

O GOD OF BETHEL, by Whose hand Thy people still are fed, we pray Thee to hear us now when we call upon Thee in prayer. We are very unworthy to approach into Thy Holy presence, for, alas, we have often sinned. Look on us not in anger, but in mercy, for Jesus' sake, and forgive us, O Lord. This day has come to us laden with many blessings and mercies; we acknowledge these all as Thy gifts; be pleased to continue Thy goodness to us in the days to come, supplying our returning needs from Thy bountiful store. Guide and help us in the discharge of life's duties and responsibilities; may we be honest and faithful in Thy sight, and toward one another enable us to be pitiful and courteous. Remember any of our number who may be absent, keep them in Thy tender care; watch over them for good, and bring them home at the appointed time in peace and safety. Bless our friends near or far away. We rejoice that we can all meet around one common mercy seat; unite us all to Thyself by a living faith in Thy beloved Son, our friend and our Redeemer Jesus Christ, to Whom with Thee and the Holy Spirit be all the praise and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

PSALM 1.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither;

and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Prayer

AND NOW, O Lord, we lift up our hearts unto Thee in prayer. Humbly and gratefully we come into Thy Holy presence; humbly because of our great unworthiness; gratefully on account of the many mercies Thou hast showered down upon us. Let Thy pardoning grace be extended unto us, for Christ's sake. May we not be found among the ungodly nor scornful, but may we delight in the law of the Lord, and meditate upon it day and night; and so shall we be like unto a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth fruit in due season. Prosper us in our temporal affairs as Thou seest best, and may we ever

remember that Thou alone dost give the increase to our labours. We pray for Thy blessing upon our home, watch over us by night as well as by day, and help us to live lives well pleasing in Thy Holy sight. Hear our prayer at this time, and fill our hearts with Thy love and joy and peace, seeing we ask all for Christ's sake. Amen.

THIRD WEEK.

ECCLESIASTES 12.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;
2. While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:
3. In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened.
4. And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low;
5. Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:
6. Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.
7. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.
8. Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all is vanity.
9. And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.
10. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.
11. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd.
12. And further, by these, my son, I admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.
13. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.
14. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Prayer

OUR Heavenly Father, we have come to the closing day of another week. How quickly the week has gone! And now we seek Thy presence, ere it passes forever, to ask pardon for our many shortcomings, and to thank Thee for all the blessings we have enjoyed day by day. Often we have forgotten the Giver in the multitude of His gifts; forgive us for Christ's sake and continue to bless us, O Lord, for we are poor and needy. Help us to realize that our lives are swiftly passing to an end; may those of us who are young remember our Creator in the days of our youth; may we learn to love the Lord Jesus Christ as our

Saviour and Friend; may those of us who are older, and who have already learned to trust Him, know more and more by a sweet experience what a Friend we have in Jesus; may it be the joy and delight of us all to do His Holy will. Now grant us Thy blessing; keep us through all this day; guard our rest during the night watches, and may we awake in the morning prepared in mind and body for the services of the Holy Sabbath. Lord, be gracious unto us, we beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake, Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

EXODUS 16. 11-35.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. 92. 61

Scripture Selection

11. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

12. I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the Lord your God.

13. And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

14. And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

15. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.

16. This is the thing which the Lord hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents.

17. And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.

18. And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.

19. And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning.

20. Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

21. And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted.

22. And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

23. And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

24. And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein.

25. And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the Lord; to day ye shall not find it in the field.

26. Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.

27. And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none.

28. And the Lord said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?

29. See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days: abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.

30. So the people rested on the seventh day.

31. And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

32. And Moses said, This is the thing which the Lord commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may

see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.

33. And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations.

34. As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony to be kept.

35. And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, we approach into Thy Holy presence, pleading the blood and righteousness of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son. We thank Thee for this day of rest, for all its calmness and serenity and peace, for all its blessings and privileges. Bless them all unto our souls. Thou didst miraculously feed Thy chosen people as they journeyed through the wilderness, so that they perished not. Feed us, we beseech Thee, with the Bread of Life, the manna which cometh down from heaven in the person of Jesus Christ, Thine only begotten Son. In all the exercises and privileges of this holy day may we be guided and blessed by Thee; help us to fulfil aright its duties and responsibilities. If we teach Thy Word to others, guide and direct us in our efforts by Thy Holy Spirit; if we listen, may it be with the hearing ear and the understanding heart. Help us to remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy, and when it is past may it not be forgotten, but may its savour cling to us through all the week. Bless the preaching of Thy glorious Gospel wherever it is proclaimed, at home or abroad. May many be born this day out of darkness into light. Hasten, O Lord, the coming of Thy Kingdom. Now take away our sins for Jesus' sake, and abundantly bless us and all whom we hold dear, for His Name's sake. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

ISAIAH 12.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.

2. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength

and my song; he also is become my salvation.

3. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

4. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his

name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

5. Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

6. Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

Prayer

OUR FATHER, Which art in Heaven, we desire to thank Thee for the many blessings of this day. Safely through the darkness of the night Thou hast brought us; no evil befel us during the silent hours. From the unconsciousness of sleep Thou hast been pleased to awaken us to the land of the living. For our powers of mind and of body continued unto us we bless Thee; for the many mercies Thou hast showered upon us we truly thank Thee, O Lord. Be pleased to continue these unto us, notwithstanding our unworthiness, for Christ's sake. Help us to strive to be more deserving of Thy favours; encourage us in our Christian life, so that we may run and not be weary, and walk and not faint. And help us ever to remember that we are only strangers and pilgrims here; may we live as citizens of a better country, even a Heavenly. Bless our friends, and all for whom we should pray; may we all be one family in Christ Jesus, and when our pilgrimage ends, give us all through Thy grace an abundant welcome into Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

MARK 1. 1-20.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

2. As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

3. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

5. And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

6. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7. And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

8. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

9. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

11. And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

12. And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

13. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

14. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

15. And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

16. Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

17. And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

18. And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

19. And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

20. And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Prayer

In the Name that is above every name, the Name of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son in Whom Thou art well pleased, we approach, O Lord, the footstool of mercy at this time. Look upon us not in anger, but in great tender mercy, and for His sake forgive our many shortcomings. For all we have received from Thy loving hand we thank Thee, and now, kneeling in Thy Holy presence, be pleased to pour down upon us each one the blessings Thou knowest we need. Direct us in the duties and concerns of the day; help us to gain the victory over sin. Enable us ever to do that which is right and well pleasing in Thy Holy sight. Bless those who are older in years, and specially those who are younger; write all our names in the Lamb's Book of Life. Remember those who may be far away; keep them ever in Thy Holy care; watch over us when we are absent one from the other, and bring us together at the appointed time in peace and safety. Hear us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and answer us, for Christ's sake only. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 8. 1-17.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

2. And behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

4. And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

5. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6. And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7. And Jesus said unto him, I will come and heal him.

8. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

9. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

10. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have

not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

11. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

14. And when Jesus was come in to Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.

15. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.

16. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

17. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, we thank Thee that Thou art still the same as in the days of Thine earthly ministry. Thou dost still sympathize with us in our sorrows and troubles; Thou dost still bend to earth a brother's eye. Have mercy upon us at this time, we beseech Thee, and bless us, for Thy Name's sake. Pardon our many sins; give unto us freedom from the yoke and bondage of sin. Whisper in each of our hearts Thine own invitation, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." May we seek to learn of Thee, for Thou art meek and lowly in heart, and may we thus find rest unto our souls, Help us to trust Thee, to learn to take Thee at Thy word, believing that what Thou hast promised Thou art willing and able also to perform. Hear our prayer now at this time, and fill our hearts with Thy joy and peace. And bless abundantly those whom we love and all for whom we should pray; for Thy dear Name's sake we ask it. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

1 PETER 2. 11-25.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

11. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

12. Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

13. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14. Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the

punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

15. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

16. As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

17. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

18. Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

19. For this is thankworthy, if a

man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

20. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

21. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22. Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23. Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

24. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Prayer

OUR Heavenly Father, help us for Jesus' sake acceptably to come before Thee. Pardon the many sins Thou seest in us; wipe them out of the book of Thy remembrance, for His sake. Help us by Thy strength to live the Christ life; may the exhortations of Thy servant we have just read from Thy Holy Word linger in our minds and exercise a constraining, uplifting influence upon our lives from day to day. Help us to be noble, to be true, to be reverent, to be obedient, in all our endeavours seeking to follow the example left us by Christ. We praise Thee for His wonderful life, but we thank Thee most of all for His sacrifice for us upon the Cross, whereon in His own body He bore our sins. Heal us by His stripes from the wounds of sin, and enable us to show forth our gratitude by living lives well pleasing in Thy Holy sight. Accept our thanks for all the mercies of this day; continue them unto us, we beseech Thee; especially be near us when night comes, and we withdraw ourselves apart from the turmoil of life to rest and sleep: that no evil befall us during the silent watches, give unto us sweet and gentle sleep. Hear us, for Christ's sake, O Lord. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

REVELATION 20.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled:

and after that he must be loosed a little season.

4. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

5. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

6. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

7. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

8. And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

9. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

10. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and

the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

11. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, around our family altar we have gathered for Thy worship; bless us, we humbly ask Thee, for Christ's sake. We thank Thee for the measure of health and strength, both of mind and of body, continued unto us. We thank Thee for the comforts of our home, for all our circumstances in life, for the environment in which we are placed. Help us to be responsive to all the influences Thou art bringing to bear upon our lives, so that we may more and more resemble Christ. And while we are grateful for the present, we would rejoice in the glorious inheritance that awaits us through Jesus Christ. Prepare us for that solemn day when we must stand before the great white throne, and be judged for the deeds done in the body. May our names then be found in Thy Book of Life; recognize us as Thy redeemed, and bid us welcome into Thy Heavenly Kingdom, O Lord, for Jesus' sake. Meanwhile, here and now enable us to be faithful and true to whatever charge Thou hast committed to us, whilst waiting and watching for the day when the weary shadows of earth shall dissolve in the eternal glory and brightness of Heaven. Guard us through all this day, and be our Keeper through the approaching night, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK.

Saturday

MARK 8. 27-38.

Scripture Selection

27. And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Cesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28. And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29. And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30. And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31. And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32. And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33. But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee be-

hind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34. And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37. Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

38. Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, in Thy precious Name we draw nigh into the Father's presence; intercede for us, we beseech Thee, so that all our sins and transgressions may be taken away. We thank Thee that by Thy Holy Spirit Thou hast been pleased to reveal Thyself unto us, so that we can humbly but truly say, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Fulfil unto us Thy promise, that, confessing this, God will dwell in us and we in God. Forbid, O Lord Jesus, that we should ever be ashamed of Thee; Thou art not ashamed of us; may we take up our cross daily and follow Thee. May we be willing even to lose our life for Thy sake and the Gospel's, so that we may save it, and thus find it eternally. And when Thou shalt come in the glory of the Father and with Thy holy angels, may Thy coming have no terrors for us, because having confessed Thee as our Saviour and Friend on earth Thou wilt confess us in that last great day, and acknowledge us as Thine own. Let Thy blessing descend upon us now, according as Thou seest we need. Help us in all the duties that devolve upon us at this time; may Thy presence continually abide in our home, and in the homes of all whom we hold dear. For Thy Name's sake we ask all. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

PSALM 84.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. 84. 37

Scripture Selection

1. How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!
2. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.
3. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.
4. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. *Selah.*
5. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.
6. Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.
7. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.
8. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. *Selah.*
9. Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.
10. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
11. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
12. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Prayer

ON this day, which commemorates once again the Resurrection from the dead of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we come to worship Thee, O God. We thank Thee for its light, for all its peace and gladness; for all its holy privileges; for all its uplifting influences. Especially do we thank Thee for Thy House of Prayer; may we truly exclaim with Thy servant the Psalmist of ancient time, "How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts. A day in Thy courts is better than a thousand." Help us to walk uprightly before Thee, so that Thou wilt not withhold any good thing from us. O Lord of Hosts, bless us, for we do trust in Thee. Be with us through all the hours of this holy day; lift us above the common round of our daily life; enable us to forget its worries and its cares, its business and pleasures. Fit us for the duties of the morrow and the coming days by the rest of this Sabbath. Give unto us a sweet and blessed foretaste of the eternal Sabbath of rest that remaineth for the people of God. Bless our land, bless our Empire, bless our Church at home and abroad, bless our home and all the homes in which we have a special interest. Graciously forgive our many sins, and love us with Thine everlasting love, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

ROMANS 12.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

3. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

4. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

5. So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

7. Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

8. Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

9. Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12. Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13. Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20. Therefore, if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Prayer

O God of all grace, we are come to worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. We thank Thee for the blessings of the night; for the many tokens of Thy love bestowed upon us to-day. Pardon wherein we have in any wise forgotten Thee and sinned against Thee, O Lord. Have mercy upon our weaknesses and endue us with Thy strength, so that we may walk more worthily in Thy sight as Thy dear children. Keep us through all the hours of this day; let Thy care ever protect us as we go out and come in. Help us in our difficulties, guide us in our perplexities, strengthen us in our temptations, sympathize with us in our sorrows, and rejoice with us in our joys; so may Thy presence cheer us all along Life's journey; and when we reach its end, bring us, and

all whom we love, into Thy Heavenly Kingdom. Bless to us the portion we have read from Thy Holy Word; may these practical truths not be forgotten; may they become more and more the regulations of our daily life and conduct. Forgive us our sins, our Heavenly Father, again we humbly ask, and let Thy tender mercy ever be upon us, and on all whom we hold dear, for Jesus' sake only. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

PHILIPPIANS 2. 1-16.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,
2. Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.
3. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.
4. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.
5. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
6. Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
7. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
8. And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
9. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
10. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
11. And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
12. Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
13. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.
14. Do all things without murmurings and disputings:
15. That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;
16. Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we lift up our hearts to Thee now in prayer; listen to our supplications, we beseech Thee, O Lord, for Christ's sake. We thank Thee for the gift of Jesus Christ, Thy well beloved Son, who, "being in the form of God, thought it not a prize to be grasped at, to be on an equality with God," but for our sakes "humbled Himself and became obedient unto Death, even the Death of the Cross." We praise Thee for His amazing sacrifice of love, and we rejoice that now He is exalted at Thine own Right Hand, continually making intercession for us. Hear Him on our behalf, we earnestly entreat Thee, O Lord. Let the mind that was found in Him be also in us, so that we

may be the sons of God without blemish, shining as lights in the world. We pray for Thy continued care over us during this day; provide for our many needs from Thy bountiful store, and if Thou dost withhold that for which we long and struggle, help us to trust Thee that Thou doest all things well. Thou knowest best, for Thy wisdom is infinite, and Thy love for us is stronger and deeper than any earthly love can be. Forgive, if in any wise we have thought or asked amiss, and give us what Thou seest good for us to have, for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 6. 1-15.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.
2. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not with a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
3. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:
4. That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.
5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.
8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.
9. After this manner, therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
10. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
11. Give us this day our daily bread.
12. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
13. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
14. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:
15. But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, when Thou wert upon earth Thou didst teach Thy disciples to pray; and, Lord, we too need to be taught, for we know not what to pray for; often times we fail to ask, and, alas, we often ask amiss. Help us now acceptably to come into Thy Holy presence. Pardon us, we beseech Thee, our many shortcomings, and give unto us the blessings of which we stand in need. Help us in our daily life to serve Thee, and in our labour, wherever and whatever it may be, to glorify Thee. And

in our spiritual life let us not become cold nor faint. Many are the temptations that daily beset us. Lord, lead us safely through them all, for Thy mercy's sake. And as for the future, give us grace to trust Thee. Let our faith and hope grow stronger and brighter day by day, until that which is "seen and temporal" gives place to that which is "unseen and eternal." Let Thy blessings continue to descend upon our home, and likewise upon all whom we love. Keep us and them alike ever in Thy tender care. If it please Thee, may we meet again on earth, and if Thy plan is otherwise, may we all meet finally in Thy Heavenly Kingdom, to go no more out for ever. Hear us and answer us, O God, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

GENESIS 13.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

2. And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver; and in gold.

3. And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai.

4. Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the Lord.

5. And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

6. And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

7. And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

8. And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

9. Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

10. And Lot lifted up his eyes,

and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

11. Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12. Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

13. But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.

14. And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward and westward:

15. For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

17. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it: for I will give it unto thee.

18. Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, we come to worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. We thank Thee for Thy wonderful dealings with the saints of olden time; we praise Thee for the encouragement their lives give unto us to live in Thy fear, in Thy obedience, and in Thy love. Thou didst abundantly bless in temporal concerns him whom Thou didst call to leave his own country and his own people, and journey to the land of Canaan, so that he might become the father of a great nation, even of Thine own chosen people Israel. And, O Lord, Thou art still willing and able to bless those who obey Thee and trust Thee. Help us so to act, and be pleased to bless us as Thou seest best. Strengthen our faith in Thee by visible signs, and may we know that we are accepted in Thy sight because of Thy mercies, spiritual and temporal, showered upon us. Keep us through all this day, watch over us at nightfall, and especially during the silent hours. Let our family altar be the scene of family blessings. Fulfil to us Thine own promise, "them that honour me, I will honour." For Christ's sake only we ask. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

Jon 25; 26.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said,
2. Dominion and fear are with him, he maketh peace in his high places.
3. Is there any number of his armies? and upon whom doth not his light arise?
4. How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?
5. Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not: yea, the stars are not pure in his sight.
6. How much less man, that is a worm? and the son of man, which is a worm?
7. He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.
8. He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them.
9. He holdeth back the face of his throne, and spreadeth his cloud upon it.
10. He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end.
11. The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at his reproof.
12. He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud.
13. By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent.
14. Lo, these are parts of his ways: but how little a portion is heard of him? but the thunder of his power who can understand?
1. But Job answered and said,
2. How hast thou helped him that is without power? how savest thou the arm that hath no strength?
3. How hast thou counselled him that hath no wisdom? and how hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?
4. To whom hast thou uttered words? and whose spirit came from thee?

Prayer

O LORD, Thou who art the King Eternal and Immortal and Invisible, the only wise God; reverently we seek to worship Thee. "No man hath seen Thee at any time," "No man can see Thee and live." By Thy divine, omnipotent power all things were created and are sustained. All around us we see evidences of Thy power, of Thy greatness and of Thy glory; but these are only parts of Thy ways, only a little portion is heard or seen or known of them. Lord, teach us more and more how great and mighty Thou art; teach us how frail and mortal we are, frail creatures of dust, but made in Thine own image, for Thy glory. Help us truly to fulfil our purpose and destiny; enable us so to live that in the great hereafter it shall be ours, through Thy grace, to stand even in Thy Holy presence before Thy Face, and serve Thee for ever and ever. Let us not miss the supreme object of our life; forbid that we should fail to reach the goal, namely, Eternal Life. Save us for Thy mercy's sake; blot out all our iniquities and cause Thy face to shine upon us, O Lord, and we shall be safe, and our hearts shall be filled with joy. Hear and answer us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

MARK 11. 1-11.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples,

2. And saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him.

3. And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither.

4. And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him.

5. And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt?

6. And they said unto them even

as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go.

7. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him.

8. And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strawed them in the way.

9. And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:

10. Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

11. And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple: and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, on this closing day of the week we gather as a family to worship Thee. We thank Thee for Thy merciful care over us during each succeeding day. We thank Thee for Thy sustaining mercy through each successive night; our returning wants have been bountifully supplied; food and clothing have been ours, as we have needed. We truly thank Thee, O Lord, for all Thy goodness, and now we ask Thee to forgive our unworthiness and to pardon our sins for Jesus' sake. Be with us when night comes; take care of us, for we are unable to take care of ourselves; and, when the Sabbath dawns, may we arise refreshed, and fitted in mind and body to enjoy the privileges, and discharge the duties, of the holy day. Bless those whom we love, those who are united to us by the tie of kinship, and also the tie of friendship; specially be near to any who are in trouble; comfort and sustain them by Thy grace. Hear their prayers for us and ours for them, and bless and keep us all in Thy holy care. And now accept of us, O Lord, and may our worship be like as the evening sacrifice; may it be acceptable in Thy holy sight, for it is offered unto Thee only in the Name of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

PSALM 65.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 44

Scripture Selection

1. Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed.
2. O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.
3. Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.
4. Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.
5. By terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea:
6. Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power:
7. Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.
8. They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.
9. Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.
10. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers, thou blessest the springing thereof.
11. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.
12. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.
13. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn: they shout for joy, they also sing.

Prayer

"O THOU that hearest prayer, unto Thee, O God, shall all flesh come." Iniquities prevail against us, we humbly confess; as for our transgressions, be pleased to purge them away in the precious blood that was shed for sin on Calvary. We thank Thee that its efficacy is still the same; that the centuries have not abated in any wise its cleansing, purifying power. And now we thank Thee, O Lord, for this holy day of rest and peace and sacred privileges. We thank Thee our lot is in a Christian land, where the Sabbath is honoured and observed. Help us this day to fulfil Thine own command—to keep it holy. Bless us through all its quiet, peaceful hours; especially sanctify to us the services of Thy House, and all the means of grace that we enjoy. Satisfy us with the goodness of Thy House, even of Thy Holy Temple. May we be strengthened and comforted in our Christian life thereby. May we be refreshed for the duties of the coming week. Bless our home, we beseech Thee, and bless our friends and all near and dear to us on this Sabbath Day. Bless our land, and may prosperity be showered upon it more and more; bless the Empire to which we belong, and bless our Church and the proclamation of Thy grace given through Thy Holy Word this day to all nations. May many accept Thine offer of mercy through Jesus Christ; and we shall give Thee all the praise and all the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

ST. JOHN 12. 1-16.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.
2. There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.
3. Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.
4. Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,
5. Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?
6. This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.
7. Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.
8. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.
9. Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead.
10. But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;
11. Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.
12. On the next day much people that were come to the feast,

when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.

13. Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

14. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,

15. Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

16. These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him.

Prayer

DEAR SAVIOUR, in the days of Thine earthly ministry, the multitude once, as Thou wert approaching the Holy City, went forth to meet Thee, and praised Thee, crying "Hosanna, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord." We may not spread either palms or garments in the paths of Thy sacred feet. Thou art now exalted at the right hand of the Father in Heaven, but Thou dost still delight to receive the homage of loving, grateful hearts. In this spirit we now desire to come into Thy holy presence, to acclaim Thee as our King, and worship Thee as our Lord and our Redeemer. Be pleased to accept of us, be pleased to hear our praise, and to bless us, even for Thy Name's sake. Take away our many sins, and let us be glad and rejoice in Thee. Be near to us day by day as we journey through life; may Thy smile cheer us; may Thy voice comfort us and encourage us, and when we come to the end of the road, and we enter the dark valley, may we fear no evil; may we know that Thou art with us; may the end of the valley lead to and open into light, the light of Heaven, where we shall see Thy face, the face that was marred with thorns for us, and worship and serve Thee for ever and ever. Be pleased, dear Saviour, to hear our prayers at this time, and to answer us freely and lovingly. For Thine own Name's sake we ask it. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

ACTS 12. 1-17.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4. And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending

after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

5. Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7. And, behold, the angel of the

Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

10. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11. And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12. And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

13. And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

14. And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15. And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.

16. But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

17. But, he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

Prayer

OUR FATHER, Which art in Heaven, we desire to worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. We thank Thee for Thy Holy Word, with all its wonderful promises of pardon and peace, of guidance and comfort. We are encouraged to trust Thee by the records it contains of those who put their hope and confidence in Thee and never were brought to confusion. Thou art a very present help in every time of trouble. Enable us to look to Thee at all times, and even when difficulties apparently insurmountable surround us, may we know, may we experience that Thou canst and wilt provide a way of escape. Look down upon us now as we kneel in Thy Holy presence with great compassion and tender mercy; forgive wherein we have sinned against Thee during this day, for Jesus' sake, and let Thy blessing be richly granted unto us, we beseech Thee. Be with us throughout the day; surround us ever with Thy care and love; may the fear of the Lord be before our eyes continually. Help us faithfully and honestly to discharge every duty, both in the sight of man and in the sight of God, and when our tasks on earth are finished, O be pleased to say unto us "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

PSALM 42.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

2. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

3. My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

4. When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

5. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

6. O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of

Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

7. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts; all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.

8. Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

9. I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

10. As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?

11. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Prayer

O God, Thou Who art the refuge and comfort of all those who are distressed, we come to worship Thee. Help us to tell Thee our sorrows and troubles, to pour out our hearts unto Thee; even as the hart in the chase panteth after the water brooks, so may our souls long for God, the living God. Command Thy loving kindness upon us in the daytime, and in the night may Thy song be with us, as we pray unto the God of our life. Thou hast not forgotten us, O Lord, for even during this day we have received new blessings from Thy gracious hand. Help us then to say "Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in the Lord, for I shall yet praise Him who is the health of my countenance and my God." Let us now leave Thy Holy presence comforted and strengthened for the future, assured that Thou art with us, and all is well. Graciously forgive our sins, continue to bless our home; keep us through all of this day, and especially guard us during the night watches. In the morning light may we awaken prepared for the duties of another day; and all we ask is for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

1 SAMUEL 31.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa.

2. And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul's sons.

3. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.

4. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

5. And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

6. So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together.

7. And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the

valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8. And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

9. And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people.

10. And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan.

11. And when the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul;

12. All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

13. And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

Prayer

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, to Thee we lift our hearts in prayer in the Name of Jesus. Listen to us, we beseech Thee, for His sake, and when Thou hearest, O Lord, forgive our many sins and trespasses. We thank Thee that Thou art still pleased to bless us; many are the mercies we enjoy; may we ever see in these the tokens of Thy care over us, and Thy love for us; and may there be inspired within us, not only gratitude, but a desire and determination to live to please and glorify Thee. Help us to take warning by the sad examples of others who, in lofty stations of life, chose to throw away their golden opportunities of usefulness and greatness in Thy service. O Lord, keep us humble, keep us faithful, keep us ever near the Cross of Jesus, and when in our waywardness we would wander and go astray, restrain us by Thy tender yet powerful love. Bless our home with Thy presence; guide us with wisdom; love us with Thy love, and finally save us with Thine eternal salvation. Bless abundantly all whom we hold dear, and those for whom we ought to pray; and all we ask is only in Christ's Name, and for His sake. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

2 SAMUEL 1. 17-27.

Friday

Scripture Selection

17. And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son:

18. (Also he bade them teach the children of Judah the use of the bow: behold, it is written in the book of Jasher.)

19. The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen!

20. Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

21. Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil.

22. From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the

bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty.

23. Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

24. Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.

25. How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places.

26. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

27. How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thy throne is established firm in the heavens and Thy Kingdom ruleth over all. Thou art God Thyself alone; beside Thee there is none else. Angels and archangels veil their faces while they cry "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty." And shall not we, frail mortal creatures of dust, humble ourselves in Thy presence? Be merciful unto us, O God, we beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake, and grant unto us acceptance and pardon as we come before Thee; pour down upon us an abundant blessing; all fulness dwells with Thee; from Thee alone cometh every good and perfect gift. Lord, suit Thy blessings to our respective needs, and as a family may Thy favor and mercy ever be manifested towards us. Guide and direct us in the concerns of this day; comfort us in our sorrows; sympathize with us in our discouragements; strengthen us in our weaknesses; free us from our sins, and rejoice with us in our joys. Bless likewise all whom we hold dear, and surround them ever with Thy tender care, and when travelling days are done, may we all meet in our Father's house, and dwell in the mansions which are prepared for them that love Thee. Hear this, our prayer, O Lord, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

SIXTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 3.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judæa,

2. And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

3. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

5. Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judæa, and all the region round about Jordan.

6. And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

7. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8. Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

9. And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

10. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: there-

fore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

11. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

12. Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

13. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

14. But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15. And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17. And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Prayer

In Thy loving favour towards us, we have reached, O Lord, the closing day of this week. And now be pleased to hear us when with grateful hearts we own Thy continual goodness unto us. Day by day, night by night, Thou hast cared for us; never hast Thou forgotten us, although we, alas! have often forgotten Thee, and grieved Thee by our many sins. Forgive us, we earnestly ask, for Christ's sake. Be with us through all the hours of this day; in our duties, and in our pleasures; in our homes, and when we are away from them. Bless us and watch over us. Help us ever to remember that Thou, God, seest us, and may we endeavour by Thy grace so to live that we shall not be ashamed in Thy Holy sight. Let Thy Holy Spirit rest upon us; may He dwell in our hearts; may He regenerate us by His indwelling, so that our bodies shall truly be His temple. Prepare us for the coming Sabbath day by the rest of the approaching night; let

our sleep be like unto that of a little child, calm and peaceful, and awake us in the morning with Thy peace and joy filling our hearts. Bless not only us, but those whom we love; remember any of our family absent from home, watch over them during their absence, and bring them back in peace and safety. Hear our prayer and answer us, O Lord, as Thou seest best, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

PSALM 92.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Ps. Sol. 66

Scripture Selection

1. *It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:*
2. *To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,*
3. *Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.*
4. *For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.*
5. *O Lord, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.*
6. *A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.*
7. *When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed for ever:*
8. *But thou, Lord, art most high for evermore.*
9. *For, lo, thine enemies, O Lord, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.*
10. *But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.*
11. *Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.*
12. *The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.*
13. *Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.*
14. *They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;*
15. *To shew that the Lord is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

Prayer

On this holy Sabbath day we come, O Lord, to worship Thee. Help us acceptably to approach into Thy presence: guide us by Thy Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ. We bless Thee for Thy unceasing care over us during the week that is past, and we rejoice that we are spared to see another day of sacred rest. Bless to us all the solemn services and exercises of the day; prepare us to worship Thee in Thy courts. Fulfil to each one that promise of Thy servant David, "Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God," and even in our old age may we still bring forth fruit to the honour and glory of Thy Holy name. We pray for the spread of Thy Kingdom everywhere this day: there are millions who still sit in darkness; may the light of Thy glorious Gospel brightly shine

upon them; may the glad time soon come when the knowledge of the glory of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea. Remember those whom we love, especially on this day, and abundantly bless them. Take away our sins in the precious blood that flowed on Calvary for us, and let this whole Sabbath be an inspiration and stimulus for us in the Christian life; for Jesus' sake we ask all. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

PROVERBS 17.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices, with strife.
2. A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.
3. The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the Lord trieth the hearts.
4. A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.
5. Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker: and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.
6. Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.
7. Excellent speech becometh not a fool: much less do lying lips a prince.
8. A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it: whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth.
9. He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.
10. A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.
11. An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.
12. Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.
13. Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.
14. The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: there-fore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.
15. He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the Lord.
16. Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he hath no heart to it?
17. A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
18. A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend.
19. He loveth transgression that loveth strife: and he that exalteth his gate seeketh destruction.
20. He that hath a froward heart findeth no good: and he that hath a perverse tongue falleth into mischief.
21. He that begetteth a fool doeth it to his sorrow: and the father of a fool hath no joy.
22. A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.
23. A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom to pervert the ways of judgment.
24. Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.
25. A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him.
26. Also to punish the just is not good, nor to strike princes for equity.
27. He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.
28. Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, now we lift our hearts to Thee in prayer in the Name of Jesus. We have read a portion of Thy Holy Word; bless it unto our souls and graciously be pleased to hear us now when we call upon Thee in prayer. Forgive our many sins, we humbly ask, and enable us more and more to gain the victory over sin. Help us to be perfect even as Thou, our Heavenly Father in Heaven, art perfect. Guide us in all the concerns of this day; prosper us in our daily work; may we be successful in temporal affairs, but let these never have the supreme place in our hearts nor in our lives. Give us grace to lay up for ourselves treasure in Heaven, where moth nor rust cannot corrupt, where thieves cannot break through and steal. May Heaven contain, not only our treasure but also our heart. Surround us with Thy care and love this day and every day; protect us from dangers, seen and unseen, when we go out and as we come in. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. When night comes and we fall asleep, forget us not, O Lord, we beseech Thee; may Thine eye, which never slumbers nor sleeps, watch over us, and in the morning be pleased to awaken us prepared for the duties of a new day. Hear this our prayer and bless us above our feeble asking, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

JOHN 3. 1-17.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2. The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6. That which is born of the flesh

is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10. Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

13. And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down

from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16. For God so loved the world,

that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, in Thy Holy Name, in Thy all-prevailing name, we come to worship Thee. May we be accepted in Thy Holy sight, O God, for Christ's sake. We thank Thee, we bless Thee for the wonderful way of life Thou hast provided for us. Thou didst unfold it, through Jesus Christ, to Nicodemus of old when he came seeking. Be pleased to reveal it by Thy Holy Spirit, Gracious Saviour, unto us, even unto us. Enable us to understand something of the new birth; but above all may we truly experience it in our hearts and in our lives. May our hope for eternity rest upon Thy wonderful promise, "That God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Help us to grow in this new life, until we reach the stature of the perfect man, the man Christ Jesus. Accept our thanks for all the blessings of this day; pardon wherein we have sinned against Thee. Be near to us during its remaining hours; watch over our home and protect those who are dear to us, and abundantly bless them also; and every mercy and every blessing we would ask only in the Name that is above every name, Jesus Christ our Lord, Thine only begotten Son, and our Redeemer. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

LUKE 12. 22-34.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

22. And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

23. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

24. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25. And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

26. If ye then be not able to do

that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

27. Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to-day in the field, and to-morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

29. And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30. For all these things do the na-

things of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

32. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

33. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that felleth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.

34. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Prayer

We thank Thee, O Heavenly Father, that our frail bodies are precious in Thy Holy sight. How often we are worried about our food, our raiment, and the wherewithals of life. Help us to learn more fully to trust Thee; Thou dost clothe the lilies of the field; Thou dost provide for the fowls of the air; how much more wilt Thou supply the needs of Thy children, those whom Thou hast taught to call Thee Father. Let us ever remember that we are of more value in Thy sight than many lilies or many sparrows. Help us to use all the powers and means at our disposal to achieve success ourselves, and then be pleased to crown our efforts with Thine abundant blessing. Let Thy command and promise ever sound in our ears, and comfort our hearts, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." For Thy goodness towards us this day we thank Thee; pardon wherein we are unworthy of Thy mercies; forgive our many sins, for Christ's sake. Strengthen and guide us in the discharge of our duties, and when our hours of rest come, may we have the assurance in our hearts that we have not laboured in vain; let the smile of Thy favour, O Lord, be upon us, for our hope is in Thee; hear this our prayer and answer us only for Christ's sake. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

LUKE 10. 25-42.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

25. And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

26. He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

27. And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

28. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

29. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

30. And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him.

34. And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37. And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

38. Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.

39. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

40. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

41. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things.

42. But one thing is needful: and that is, that thou doest that good part, which shall not be taken away from thee.

Prayer

DEAR SAVIOUR, help us to learn life's lessons, how often opportunities for service have lain in our pathway, and we have passed by on the other side. Let us not neglect nor despise these unexpected claims upon our time, upon our sympathy, and upon our help. May we be truly neighbourly and delight in assisting, loving our brother whom we can see, so that we may truly say we love God, whom we can not see. Enable us to choose that good part, which shall not be taken away from us. Bless us now as we kneel before Thee; may we delight to sit at Thy feet, blessed Master, and listen to Thy wonderful words of life. Pardon our many sins, we humbly beseech Thee; accept of our thanks for the mercies of this day; guide and direct us through its passing hours. Enable us by Thy grace to do that which is right and holy, and to avoid that which is wrong and sinful. Keep us pure and holy, in thought as well as in word and action. Be near to all who are dear to us; let Thy tender care ever surround us all, by night and by day; strengthen our faith, deepen our love, brighten our hope, and these mercies we ask for Thine own Name's sake. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

LUKE 7. 1-17.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

2. And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

3. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.

4. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying,

That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

5. For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

6. Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:

7. Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.

8. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

9. When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

10. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

11. And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.

12. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

13. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

14. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

15. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

17. And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about.

Prayer

GRACIOUS MASTER, we thank Thee for the wonderful story of Thy life, for the records of Thy words and deeds. We rejoice that Thou art still the same as when Thou wert upon earth, able and willing to sympathize with, and to help, those who are in sorrow and trouble; often we are troubled; come, we beseech of Thee, to our aid, and turn our weeping into joy, our tears into smiles, and our sorrow into gladness, our dead selves into new and holy lives. Many are the mercies we daily receive from Thy hand, O Lord. This day has brought unto us fresh tokens of Thy goodness and love. We would truly thank Thee, and pray that Thy blessings may continue to fall upon us, for Christ's sake. Take away our sins in the Blood that flowed upon Calvary, and help us daily to love sin less, and to love holiness more. May we know what it is to grow in grace and in likeness to Jesus Christ. Direct us in all the duties of to-day; help us in our difficulties, and strengthen us in our temptations, and when the day closes, may we have the joy of realizing that it has not been lived nor spent in vain. Protect us during the night watches, O Lord, for we cannot protect ourselves. And these mercies we ask only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

SEVENTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 17. 1-13.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

2. And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

4. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

5. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

6. And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

7. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

8. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

9. And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

10. And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come?

11. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things.

12. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.

13. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for the greatest gift of Thy love, Jesus Christ, Thine Only Begotten Son, our Lord and our Redeemer. We thank Thee for the glory of His transfiguration, in which the tapestry of His flesh became so transparent that His divine nature shone forth with a brightness and glory exceeding the sun. We thank Thee for that Voice which spake to confirm our belief and faith in Him as the Messiah, the Saviour of the world. Help us, O Lord, truly to accept Him as such; reveal Him to our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, and may we indeed see "no man save Jesus only," in His Divinity and in His Humanity as our Redeemer and Lord. We pray Thee for Thy blessing now to rest upon us; pardon our sins and accept of us for His name's sake. Be with us, O Lord, through this day to guide, comfort and bless us. May Thy presence be in our home; may Thy love ever rule in our hearts, and be the controlling power in our lives. Remember all whom we love; any who are far away specially bless, O Lord. And now hear us in this our prayer, and let Thy blessing be not merely according to our asking, but as Thou seest best, for we ask everything only in Christ's Name and for His sake. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

MARK 3. 1-21.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. Sol. 344

Scripture Selection

1. And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand.

2. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

3. And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.

4. And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

5. And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

6. And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

7. But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judæa,

8. And from Jerusalem, and from Idumæa, and from beyond Jordan; and they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him.

9. And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should throng him.

10. For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

11. And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.

12. And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.

13. And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him.

14. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

15. And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

16. And Simon he surnamed Peter;

17. And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

18. And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddæus, and Simon the Canaanite,

19. And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house.

20. And the multitude cometh together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread.

21. And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself.

Prayer

MOST GRACIOUS GOD, we approach the footstool of Thy mercy in the Name of Jesus; hear and answer us, we beseech Thee, for His name's sake. For the glory and gladness, for the opportunities and privileges of the Sabbath, we bless and praise Thee; and we ask Thee now to be with us, and to guide us in the enjoyment and fulfilment of the privileges of this day; let its atmosphere be calm and sweet and refreshing; may our cares and worries be forgotten for a little while; may we have fellowship and communion with Thyself, our Father, through Jesus Christ,

by the indwelling of Thy Holy Spirit. May this be a day of healing, alike unto our bodies and unto our souls. Give us the desire to worship Thee in Thy courts; forbid that we should, through carelessness or indifference, forsake Thy House, and neglect the privilege of public worship; and when we take ourselves thither, may Thy sanctuary be a joy and delight unto our souls; may the exercises of solemn worship lead us to a closer union with Thyself. Bless Thy Gospel wherever it is preached to-day; may many be gathered into Thy Kingdom, and so may the time be hastened when the knowledge of the glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Forgive our many sins, O Lord, we humbly plead, and let Thy mercy be upon us, for in Christ's Name only do we ask all. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

2 KINGS 2. 1-14.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2. And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.

3. And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to-day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

4. And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.

5. And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to-day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

6. And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on.

7. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.

8. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.

9. And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.

10. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.

11. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

12. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

13. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;

14. And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

Prayer

OUR FATHER, we gather round our family altar for Thy worship. Bless to us Thy Holy Word; may it stimulate our faith and strengthen our nerve to serve Thee with all our might. We thank Thee for the heroes of ancient time, who were not afraid to call upon Thee in the times of trouble and danger. O God of Elisha, come to our aid when we are troubled and perplexed along the highway of life. Enable us manfully to go forward, trusting in Thee, assured that no difficulty is too great for Thee to remove, no problem too complex for Thee to solve. Bless us abundantly in our daily labour, help us to be faithful and honest in the doing of it. Give us such prosperity as Thou seest best, and so enable us to prepare for the future here and the greater future hereafter. Be near to all whom we love, and bless them with the same mercies we ask for ourselves. Comfort any who may be in trouble, raise up those who may be cast down, and graciously heal any who may be sick. Now we commit ourselves into Thy tender keeping through all of this day, and when night falls down upon us may we not be afraid, for may we feel Thy presence and hear Thy voice, Gracious Saviour, whispering unto us, "It is I, be not afraid." So lead and guide us by day, as well as by night, until we reach the end of our journey, and then, our Father, call us home to be with Thyself, because of Thy love bestowed upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

GENESIS 6. 5-22.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

5. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

7. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

8. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

9. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

10. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

12. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

13. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

14. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

15. And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

16. A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou

finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

17. And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

18. But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

19. And of every living thing of

all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

20. Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

21. And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

22. Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

Prayer

We approach Thy throne, O Lord, to worship; may we find grace in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. We confess our sins and our transgressions; be pleased to forgive us, for Christ's sake. We praise Thee for Jesus, the greatest gift of Thy love to us; for the way of eternal safety provided for us, and for all who will come; for the ark of refuge, in the person of Thine only begotten Son, Who sufficeth for the whole human race. Help us, Lord, to enter in while we may, so that when the earth is visited by the fire of Thy wrath at the final judgment, we shall be safe. Forbid that we should be satisfied only with our own safety; may we be the means in Thy hand of saving others. Help us to be earnest in this endeavour, and wilt Thou, O Lord, be pleased to bless us, and own us to the glory of Thy great and Holy name. Accept our thanks for the many blessings of this new day; Thou didst preserve us through the bygone night, when we were unable to help ourselves. Still be near to shield and defend us, for our hope and our trust are in Thee. Fill us with hope and courage for the future, as Thou hast blessed us in the past, bless us in the days to come. And now hear us in our prayer; forgive us if we have asked amiss, and give us, not as we have desired merely, but as Thou, O Lord, seest best, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

GENESIS 7.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

2. Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are

not clean by two, the male and his female.

3. Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

4. For yet seven days, and I will

cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

5. And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.

6. And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

7. And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

8. Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of everything that creepeth upon the earth,

9. There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

10. And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

11. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

12. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

13. In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

14. They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth

after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

15. And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

16. And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the Lord shut him in.

17. And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

18. And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

19. And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

20. Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

21. And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

22. All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

23. And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

24. And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.

Prayer

O God, Thou art great and high and holy; sinners cannot stand before Thee. We have read how, in the early history of our race, Thou didst destroy with a flood all those who offended Thee. Lord, if Thou wert strict to mark iniquity who should stand in Thy Holy sight? But blessed be Thy Holy name, Thou art also a God of infinite compassion and tender mercy. We plead for Thy mercy at this time, for Christ's sake. Forgive our transgressions and remember them no more against us. Let us rejoice in the liberty whereby Christ maketh His people free. Enable us more and more "to die unto sin and to live unto holiness." Let Thy blessing rest upon us abundantly throughout this new day; help us in its duties; guide us in its problems; encourage us in its trials; strengthen us in its battles, and rejoice

with us in its victories. If there be any peculiar difficulty in our lives to-day, Lord grant that there may descend upon us a peculiar blessing. Forget us not when we, alas too often, forget Thee, for the cares of life encroach upon our hearts and occupy our thoughts. And now, O Lord, hear our prayer, not for ourselves alone, but also for those whom we hold dear; keep them likewise in Thy Holy care. And we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

GENESIS 8.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth and the waters asswaged;

2. The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;

3. And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.

4. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

5. And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

6. And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made:

7. And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

8. Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground;

9. But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.

10. And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark;

11. And the dove came in to him

in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

12. And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more.

13. And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

14. And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried.

15. And God spake unto Noah, saying,

16. Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.

17. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

18. And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:

19. Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

20. And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

21. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will

I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

22. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou who didst remember Noah and all that were with him in the Ark, and who didst in due time bring them safely forth upon dry ground, we worship Thee. We would erect in our home an altar unto the Lord, and, though we offer no offering such as Noah did in ancient days, yet may our service at this time ascend as a sweet savour unto Thee, for it is offered in the name of Jesus. We rejoice that the promise made to Noah of perpetual seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, is still enjoyed by us. Thou givest all, O Lord, and we desire to praise Thee for Thy goodness and loving kindness. Help us to be truly grateful, and may we endeavour to show forth our gratitude by honouring Thee in our daily walk and conversation. May we ever remember we are stewards, not owners, of all we possess; forbid that we should selfishly use Thy mercies. Impress upon us Thine own truth, Lord Jesus, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." And now pardon our many sins, O Lord; command the needed blessings to descend upon us; strengthen us and direct us in the work of this day; comfort us when night comes with refreshing sleep. In His Name, the Name of Jesus, we ask all. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 10. 1-13.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions.

2. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

3. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not.

4. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built,

5. And the meat of his table, and

the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her.

6. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom.

7. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

8. Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom.

9. Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the Lord loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

10. And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones: there came no more such abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.

11. And the navy also of Hiram, that brought gold from Ophir,

brought in from Ophir great plenty of almag trees, and precious stones.

12. And the king made of the almag trees pillars for the house of the Lord, and for the king's house, harps also and psalteries for singers: there came no such almag trees, nor were seen unto this day.

13. And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

Prayer

O LORD, Who alone art infinite in wisdom and knowledge, we worship Thee. Not by searching can we find Thee out. We are finite, weak, erring, mortal creatures, and yet, blessed be Thy Holy Name, Thou hast made us capable of knowing Thee. We are not as the brutes of the fields, which live and perish; we are related to Thee; we live and move in Thee; we are Thy children, bearing Thy likeness, manifesting Thy divine image, displaying Thy workmanship. Enable us by Thy grace to rightly prize our relationship; help us to live up to the level of it. Prepare us for Thy service, by washing us from our sins in the precious blood of Christ that flowed on Calvary; and equipping us by the bestowal upon us of every needed gift. We come, not to an earthly king to seek wisdom, but to one infinitely greater than the wisest, to one infinitely richer than the richest earthly monarch, to the Lord Jesus Christ. Mighty Saviour, teach us and enrich us with every blessing now as we kneel in Thy Holy presence; send us not empty away, but satisfy the longings of our hearts with Thyself, and add for our temporal happiness every blessing Thou seest best. Be with us through all of this day; guard and protect us as we go out and as we come in; in peace and safety may we rest when the day has ended. And we ask these mercies not because we are deserving, but only in Christ's Name, who alone is worthy. Amen.

EIGHTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 22. 1-14.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,

2. The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

3. And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

4. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

5. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:

6. And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

7. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

8. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.

9. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

10. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found,

both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

11. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

12. And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

13. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

14. For many are called, but few are chosen.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, we bless thee for the gospel of Thy grace; for the fulness and the freeness of Thy invitation to come to the gospel feast. Forbid that any of us should oppose the proclamation of it; forbid that any of us should be indifferent to the acceptance of it. Thou hast, by Thy infinite love provided for all who will accept and wear it,—“the wedding garment,” the perfect robe of Thy righteousness. Lord, make us willing to put it on, lest we at the last be cast out into that outer darkness, where there is for ever weeping and gnashing of teeth. Impress upon our hearts this solemn lesson which Thou dost teach in parable; save us, we beseech Thee, for Thy mercy's sake. In Thy goodness we have come nearly to the close of this week; for all Thy favours we thank Thee, O Lord, our Father; be with us evermore; especially guard us during the coming night, and may we awake in the holy morning refreshed in body and in mind; thus prepare us to keep the Sabbath aright. Bless the place in which we live, the land to which we belong, the Empire by whose flag we are shielded and protected. May we rightfully and loyally discharge our duties as citizens, but may our citizenship be truly in heaven, from whence also may we look for the Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ. These mercies we ask, O Lord, only in His Name and for His sake. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

PSALM 111.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 592

Scripture Selection

1. Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.

2. The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that

have pleasure therein.

3. His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

4. He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5. He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant.

6. He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.

7. The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure.

8. They stand fast for ever and

ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

9. He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.

10. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do His commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Prayer

O THOU, who art "from everlasting to everlasting God," the Creator of all things, humbly we would worship Thee in the Name of Jesus Christ, inspired by Thy Holy Spirit. Unworthy we are, O Lord, to approach into Thy Holy presence; remove our fears, and cleanse our guilt away for His sake, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and grant unto us throughout this holy Sabbath day Thy love, and the smile of Thy favour, which is better even than life. Let this day be unto us a means of grace; while we rest our bodies from life's daily toils, may our souls be quickened and renewed by the services of Thy Holy House, and by quietness and meditation in our homes. Lift us above the common round of life, and speak to us through Thy Word and Spirit, of that future life with Thyself in the kingdom above; and in our thoughtful moments may we even catch glimpses with the eye of faith of Thy glory that is yet to be revealed, which Thou hast in store for them that love Thee. Bless us now as we kneel before Thee, O Lord; bless all whom we love; bless our beloved Church here and everywhere; bless the proclamation of Thy glorious gospel at home and abroad to-day. Let there be a great ingathering into Thy Kingdom from all lands, out of all nations, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

ISAIAH 25.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. O Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

2. For thou hast made of a city an heap; of a defenced city a ruin: a palace of strangers to be no city; it shall never be built.

3. Therefore shall the strong people glorify thee, the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee.

4. For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy

in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

5. Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud: the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low.

6. And in this mountain shall the Lord of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of

marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.

7. And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations.

8. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it.

9. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for

him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

10. For in this mountain shall the hand of the Lord rest, and Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.

11. And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim; and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands.

12. And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

Prayer

ENABLE us truly to say with Thy servant the prophet of ancient time, "O Lord, Thou art our God, we will exalt, we will praise Thy name, for Thou hast done wonderful things." How many are the mercies that have strewn our pathway in the years that lie behind us; how many are the blessings we now enjoy! we cannot tell, they are more than can be numbered. Lord, we would truly thank Thee for them all, and we would beseech Thee for Christ's sake to continue Thy goodness unto us during the days to come; and when we come to the end of the journey our hope and trust will still be in Thee, for Thou hast promised to "swallow up death in victory," and to "wipe away the tears from off all faces." Thou art our God, we would wait for Thee; we would be glad and rejoice through Thy salvation. For the mercies Thou hast given unto us this day, we thank Thee; be near to us during its passing hours; help us to serve Thee with all our heart; in our daily duties help us to be conscientious and diligent. Guide us when we are perplexed, and comfort us when we are worried; when we are tempted, provide us with a means of escape. Suffer us not to be tempted above that we are able to bear. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 19. 13-30.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

13. Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.

14. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

15. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence.

16. And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17. And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

18. He saith unto him, Which?

Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness.

19. Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

20. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21. Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26. But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

27. Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

28. And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

29. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

30. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, in Thy blessed Name we come to worship; look down upon us with love and compassion and great mercy. We thank Thee for Thy life upon earth; for Thy marvellous teachings, which are our hope and comfort. Let nothing come between us and Thee; enable us to take up our cross daily and follow Thee in the way. O Lord, we have often followed Thee afar off, draw us near to Thyself, and let us not stray away from Thy side. O forbid that this world's riches should ever be an obstacle to keep us out of heaven. Let not the love of money be a curse unto our souls. For the many mercies of this new day we thank Thee; safely we have come through the darkness of the night. Direct us, O Lord, in the duties of the day; prosper us as Thou seest best; preserve us from all evil. Graciously remember all our friends; surround them with Thy loving care; unite us all to Thyself by a living faith and loyal service. Forgive our sins and transgressions, and let Thy blessings descend abundantly upon us, for Thy blessed name's sake. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

1 JOHN 3. 1-12.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

5. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

6. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

7. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

8. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he

might destroy the works of the devil.

9. Whosoever is born of God doeth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

10. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

11. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

12. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, for the love which Thou hast bestowed upon us in Thy Son, Thy well beloved Son, that we should be called the sons of God, we desire to bless and praise Thee; and not only for our present state, but also for the future glory, for "it doth not yet appear what we shall be"; may we know, may we have the assurance and comfort in our hearts, that when our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ shall appear, "we shall be like him, for we shall see Him as He is"; may such a hope, such a glorious prospect as this, purify our hearts and lives, and make us like unto His divine and perfect life. O Lord, we confess, often we have not lived up to the level of our privileges, nor fully discharged our responsibilities. Even now there is sin upon us; forgive us, good Lord, and help us in Thy strength to live as Thou wouldst have us live. Be with us during this day to bless and prosper us in its daily duties; watch over us as we go out and as we come in; bring us safely home at nightfall, and let Thine angels guard us when we fall asleep. Hear us in our prayer, and accept of us only for Christ's sake. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

ACTS 8. 26-39.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

26. And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south, unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

27. And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians,

who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship.

28. Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

29. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near and join thyself to this chariot.

30. And Philip ran thither to

him, and heard him read the prophet *Isaiah*, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

31. And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

32. The place of the Scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

33. In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34. And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

35. Then Philip opened his

mouth and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37. And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Prayer

HAVING read this beautiful passage from Thy Holy Word we come now, O Lord, to offer up our family prayer unto Thee. May Thy Holy Spirit guide us, so that we may rightly understand the Scriptures; may He reveal unto us Jesus Christ therein, as the Lamb of God that was offered up for our sins upon the Cross; may we be enabled to accept of Him as our Saviour, believing with our hearts that Jesus is the Son of God. Thou knowest our wants, our needs, as we bow before Thee; graciously suit Thy blessings to us, and prepare us all for the duties of this day; in the discharge of them may we honour and glorify Thee. We commit and commend to Thee, O Lord, all whom we love, surround them ever with Thy tender care; we rejoice that though separated by time and space we can meet around one common mercy-seat. Be specially near to us when the day closes; how helpless we are in the darkness! but our trust is in Thee, O Lord; and when a new day dawns, be pleased to awaken us to see it; fit us for its responsibilities. And we will give Thee all the praise, and all the glory, now and evermore. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

PSALM 91.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God, in him will I trust.

3. Surely he shall deliver thee

from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5. Thou shalt not be afraid for the

terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;—

6. Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noon-day.

7. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

9. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

10. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

12. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

13. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

14. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

15. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Prayer

O God, we would truly make this psalm our prayer at this time; let us dwell in the secret place of the Most High, and may we abide under the shadow of the Almighty. We would say of the Lord, "He is our fortress and refuge, our God, in Him will we trust." Deliver us from the fowler's snare and from the noisome pestilence; under Thy wings would we trust; let Thy truth be our shield and buckler. Let us not be afraid of the terror of the night, nor of the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the noisome pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. When we see thousands fall around us, comfort us with the assurance that we are safe; that no evil shall befall us; nor any plague come nigh our dwelling, because Thou, O Lord, art our refuge and our habitation. Give Thine angels charge over us, to keep us in all our ways; may they bear us up, lest we stumble and come to grief. Set Thy love upon us, even upon us, O Lord, and set us on high, because we know and fear Thy Name. Answer us now, and at all times when we call upon Thee; especially be near us in our times of trouble; deliver us and honour us; satisfy us with length of days, and show us Thy salvation here and hereafter, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NINTH WEEK.

JOHN 6. 1-13.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias.

2. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles

which he did on them that were diseased.

3. And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.

4. And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.

5. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

6. And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

7. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

8. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,

9. There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

10. And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

11. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, we rejoice that Thou carest not only for our spiritual welfare, but also for our temporal sustenance and happiness. How kind Thou wert to those that came seeking Thee in a desert place long ago. Hungry and tired, and thoughtless regarding their food they came, but Thou didst not send them empty away, Thou didst abundantly satisfy their needs. For Thy goodness unto us, O Lord, we would be deeply grateful; our wants Thou hast ever supplied; many have more of this world's goods than we have, but very many have less; help us to be truly thankful for all that we have. Be pleased to continue Thy mercies unto us from day to day, but may we do our part; may we honestly labour to earn our bread by the sweat of our brow. Give us bodily strength and mental ability, so that our work may be wisely and profitably performed. Now another week has almost ended; for Thine unceasing care over us, and goodness unto us, we praise Thee; be with us until its close; when we fall asleep may it be with the consciousness that Thou art caring for us through the darkness, and so we shall be safe. Graciously wake us on the Sabbath morn rested, and may our desire be to keep the Sabbath day holy unto the Lord. Take away our sins in Thy precious blood, O loving Saviour, we earnestly ask. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

ISAIAH 58.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. Sol. 1

Scripture Selection

1. Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

2. Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

3. Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

4. Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

5. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord?

6. Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

7. Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

8. Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine

health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rereward.

9. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

10. And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

11. And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

12. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

13. If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

14. Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Prayer

O LORD OF THE SABBATH, we desire to worship Thee. Help us acceptably so to do, by the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit. We bless Thee for the institution of this weekly day of rest. We adore Thee, O Lord, for the privileges that are associated with it; we thank Thee for the blessings that follow the right and proper observance of it. May the command given on Sinai be

solemnly observed by us; may we call the day "a delight, the holy of the Lord honourable." Forbid that we should be tempted to make it a day for our own pleasure; may it ever be a day for Thy service. Fulfil, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy promise unto us, and cause us to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed us with the heritage of Thy chosen. During this day favour us with Thy presence; direct us in its duties; bless us in all its privileges, and sanctify to us all its means of grace. Grant unto us in our hearts Thy peace, Thy joy, and the assurance of Thy love. Pardon, for Christ's sake, all our sins, and help us to be perfect, even as Thou, our Father in Heaven, art perfect. Let Thy blessing descend abundantly upon our home, and upon the homes of those whom we love, especially on this holy day. Bless Thy cause and Kingdom everywhere; hasten that glorious time when all shall know Thee, O Lord, from the least even unto the greatest. For Christ's sake. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

LUKE 8. 41-56.

Monday

Scripture Selection

41. And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

42. For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.

43. And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

44. Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanch'd.

45. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

46. And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

47. And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.

48. And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

49. While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master.

50. But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

51. And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.

52. And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

53. And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

54. And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.

55. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

56. And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

Prayer

In Thy goodness and mercy unto us, O Lord, Thou hast permitted us to resume life's duties and life's work. Fresh from the privileges and joys of the Sabbath, we have entered upon our daily labours. We thank Thee for strength of mind and of body to work for our daily bread. Give unto us Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, so that we may prosper. Let us not make our work our supreme end in life; rather let it ever be a means by which we shall glorify Thee. Help us to be faithful and honest and capable in our work, so that it may be approved, not only in the sight of those for whom we labour, but above all in Thy sight, O Lord. May our treasure be not only on earth, may it be chiefly in heaven. Be with our friends, be with ourselves evermore. Be with us in our rest, and should we awaken through the night, comfort us, O Lord, with the sense of Thy presence; and when a new morning comes, call us up with morning faces and with morning hearts, eager to work, eager to live and to honour Thee. If joy be our lot, rejoice with us in it; share it with us; if sorrow, make us strong to endure it, and we ask these mercies in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

GALATIANS 6. 6-18.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

6. Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

7. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

9. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

10. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

11. Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand.

12. As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only

lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

13. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

14. But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

15. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

16. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

17. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

18. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Prayer

OUR FATHER, which art in Heaven, we come to worship Thee now in prayer. We have read a portion of Thy Holy Word, bless it unto our souls. Help us ever to remember the solemn warning given to us therein, through Thy servant Paul, inspired by Thy Holy Spirit, "God is not mocked; whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Forbid, we beseech Thee, that we should sow to the flesh, lest we reap corruption; enable us by Thy grace to sow to the Spirit, so that we may of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let our glory ever and only be in the cross of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. May we truly be humble followers of Him, and may it be our delight and honour to bear ever about with us those marks, which are signs to the world of His ownership of us. We thank Thee for the blessings and mercies of this day; may they be continued unto us, O Lord, we pray Thee. Especially guard us when night falls on us, and we steal away to rest; may we fear no evil, for in Thy keeping we are safe. Graciously take away our sins in the precious blood of Jesus, and hear and answer us only for His sake. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

EPHESIANS 6. 1-20.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
2. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;
3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
4. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
5. Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;
6. Not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;
7. With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:
8. Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.
9. And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master
- also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.
10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17. And take the helmet of salva-

tion, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

19. And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.

20. For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Prayer

AND now, O Lord, graciously hear us when we pray, for Jesus' sake. Bless to us, each one, as members of our family, these exhortations we have just read. To children, to parents, and to those who serve, may they come with all solemnity and earnest exhortation. Recognize us all, whether young or old, as Thy servants; may we know ourselves to be such, and endeavour to serve Thee not "with eye service as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." In the conflict with sin in the world, enable us "to put on the whole armour of God, so that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Alas, O Lord, we must confess how often we have failed and fallen in the fight against sin; we have trusted in our own armour, having failed to put on Thine; we have looked upon our own weapons as invincible and our strength as sufficient; forgive us, we beseech Thee, for Christ's sake, and enable us in the future to follow the commands of Thy Holy Word, so that we may come off more than conquerors, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Help us to fight, enable us to watch; inspire us to pray, and in the last struggle come to our aid, gracious Saviour, Thou who alone art the conqueror of death, and give us eternal victory. Hear us and forgive us, we pray Thee, good Lord, now and for ever. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 21. 1-17.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,

2. Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.

3. And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.

4. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

5. Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

6. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them.

7. And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon.

8. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way.

9. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh

in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

10. And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?

11. And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

12. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves.

13. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

14. And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

15. And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased.

16. And said unto him, Hearst thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

17. And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, we rejoice that the multitudes honoured Thee when Thou wert upon earth, exclaiming as they threw their garments in Thy path, "Hosanna to the Son of David, Hosanna in the highest." Now we would adore Thee as the risen and exalted Lord, seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven. Accept our adoration of lip and heart, for Thy blessed name's sake. Pardon our many sins, Lord Jesus, take them all away in Thy precious blood, and help us truly to serve and honour Thee, by doing those things which are well pleasing in Thy Holy sight; and, so serving Thee on earth, may it be ours by and bye to serve Thee in heaven face to face, and to join our voices with the heavenly host, crying, "Hosanna, hallelujah! to Him who was slain for us, who died and who rose again." We thank Thee for the blessings of this new day; we pray for Thy continued favours to us, and Thy care over us. Help us in our duties, strengthen us in our work, guide us in our difficulties, lead us out of temptation, and deliver us from evil. Remember not only our home, but the homes of all whom we love; bless them abundantly, O Lord; hear us and answer us, not merely as we have asked, but as Thou seest best, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

PROVERBS 28. 1-19.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. The wicked see when no man persueth: but the righteous are held as a lion.

2. For the transgression of a land many are the princes thereof: but by a man of understanding and

knowledge the state thereof shall be prolonged.

3. A poor man that oppresseth the poor is like a sweeping rain which leaveth no food.

4. They that forsake the law

praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them.

5. Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the Lord understand all things.

6. Better is the poor that walketh in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

7. Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father.

8. He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

9. He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

10. Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: but the upright shall have good things in possession.

11. The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out.

12. When righteous men do rejoice, there is great glory: but when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.

13. He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

14. Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.

15. As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.

16. The prince that wanteth understanding shall also a great oppressor: but he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days.

17. A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.

18. Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.

19. He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, humbly we bow before Thee in prayer, coming in the Name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, Thy well beloved Son, our Lord and our Redeemer. For Thy mercies bestowed upon us, we thank Thee. Pardon us wherein we are unworthy. Forgive us wherein we are ungrateful and unresponsive. Help us to walk uprightly, so that we shall be saved, saved from the consequences of sin in this life, and in that which is to come. We praise Thee for the plan of salvation, so full, so free, so simple, that even the youngest may not err therein. Enable each one of us to accept of Thine offer through Jesus Christ; may our hope and our trust for salvation be in Him alone; may He be our personal Saviour, our only hope for time and eternity. Quickly the days are slipping past, swiftly the years are rolling on. Lord, help us to realize how important it is to live wisely and well. O forbid that our lives should be a failure; in Thy mercy save us from sin. We look to Thee, we trust in Thee, gracious Saviour. Hear us in this our prayer, and may we leave Thy presence with Thy peace and Thy joy in our hearts. Leave us not either by night nor by day, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

TENTH WEEK.

PSALM 119. 89-104.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

89. For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.

90. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

91. They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.

92. Unless thy law had been my delights, I should them have perished in mine affliction.

93. I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

94. I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.

95. The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will consider thy testimonies.

96. I have seen an end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding broad.

97. O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

98. Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies; for they are ever with me.

99. I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

100. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

101. I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

102. I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

103. How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

104. Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Prayer

O LORD, Thou art great and high and holy, and Thy Word is for ever settled in heaven. We worship and adore Thee, we magnify and bless Thee; be merciful unto us, for Christ's sake. We have come to the closing day of this week; many are the blessings Thou hast bestowed upon us; for them all, we desire truly to thank Thee. Pardon our many sins, and now, kneeling before Thy mercy seat, grant unto us Thy blessing and Thy peace. Guide and guard us through what remains of this day. As we go out and come in, intent upon our daily duties, Lord, forget us not; prosper the work of our hands. Enable us to live as Thy dear children. Draw specially near us when the darkness of night gathers, and when we fall asleep may we be conscious of Thy tender care thrown around us. Remember those of our number who are away, keep them ever in Thy Holy care. Bring us together again at the appointed time. Unite us and all whom we love at the last, to be with Thyself, in that land of which Thou hast told us, "there is no night there." For Christ's sake. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

REVELATION 1. 4-20.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 285

Scripture Selection

4. John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

5. And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

6. And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

7. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

8. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

9. I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

10. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11. Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto

Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

12. And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

13. And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

14. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

15. And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

16. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

17. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

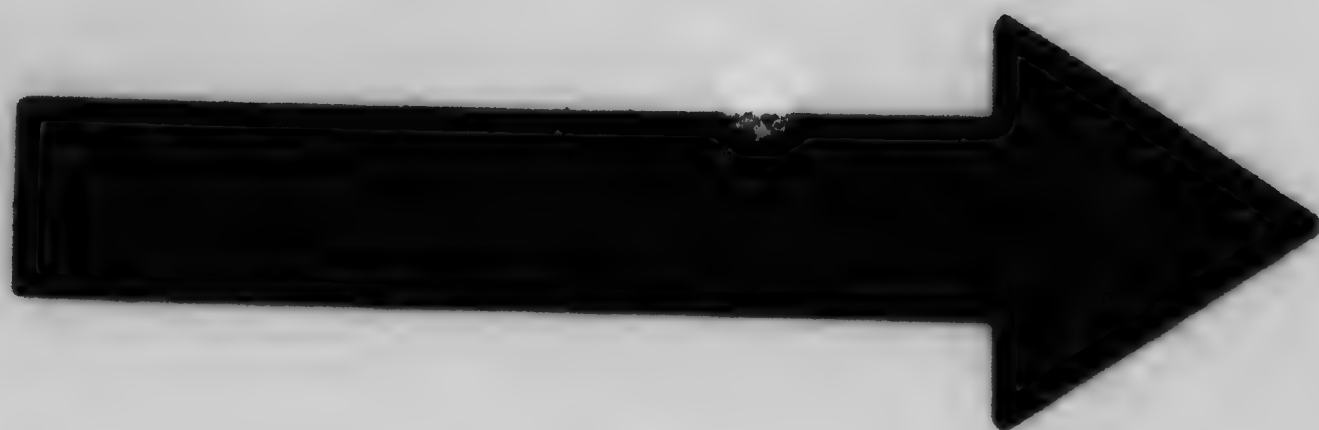
18. I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

19. Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

20. The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

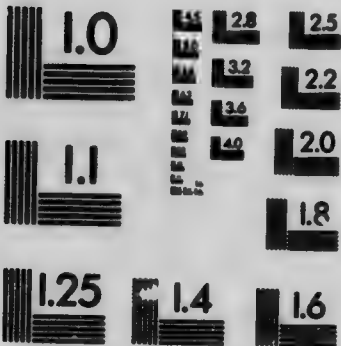
Prayer

In Thy goodness unto us, O Lord, we have seen the light of another Sabbath, another day of holy rest and peace. We praise and bless Thee for all Thou hast given unto us and done for us during the bygone week, and now let this day come laden with rich spiritual gifts. Help us not only to receive, but to appreciate such. May we, like Thy beloved disciple, be "in the Spirit on the Lord's day." Give unto us Thy Holy Spirit in such manner



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and in such measure as Thou seest best. And thus may we hear and see some of those heavenly mysteries which Thou dost reveal only to those who are truly Thine. Lord Jesus, not alone in Thy majesty, but in Thy tenderness and love, draw nigh us in the services of Thy House; lay upon us Thy right hand and say unto us, "Fear not," for Thy presence without Thy voice would only strike terror to our souls. Soon the day will pass and be gone for ever; may its memory still linger with us; may its atmosphere still cling to us; may its holy light still lead and guide us. Bless our Church and all its work to-day; if we actively engage in such, be pleased to own and bless us. May the message from our own pulpit be blessed to all who hear it; may Thy gospel wherever proclaimed to-day, at home or abroad, be received by ever increasing multitudes, until the glad time shall come when all mankind shall know and worship Thee as King of kings and Lord of All. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

JOHN 15. 1-17.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

3. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

6. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

7. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

8. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

9. As the Father hath loved me,

so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

10. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

11. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

12. This is my commandment, That ye love one another as I have loved you.

13. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

14. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

15. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

16. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

17. These things I command you, that ye love one another.

Prayer

BLESSED SAVIOUR, in Thy Holy Name we draw nigh to worship. Thou hast loved us with an everlasting love; Thou hast given Thy very life for us, even us. Help us, O Lord, truly to love Thee, and may our love find its expression in obeying Thy command, "to love one another." We confess that our love is at the best a feeble, flickering spark, even to Thyself, while towards others it is often invisible. We pray Thee that Thou wilt not draw away from us, but come all the closer, all the nearer, so that Thy infinite love may kindle a flame "in these cold hearts of ours." Bless us now as a family, when we kneel before Thee; Thou knowest our individual needs, O Lord; be pleased to supply such from Thy bountiful store. Graciously forgive wherein we have sinned to-day. Guide and direct us in the duties we undertake to fulfil; watch over us as we go out and come in; preserve us from all evil. Be near us at eventide, and when the lights are put out, and we fall asleep, may it still be light with us, because of Thy Holy presence in our home, and Thy joy in our hearts. We commit to Thee all whom we love and hold dear; watch over and bless them all, and bring us all at the last home to be with Thyself. For Thy Name's sake we ask it. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

MARK 7. 14-30.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

14. And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand:

15. There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.

16. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

17. And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable.

18. And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him;

because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?

20. And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man.

21. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

22. Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

23. All these evil things come from within and defile the man.

24. And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid.

25. For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26. The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

27. But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.

28. And she answered and said unto him, Yea, Lord: yet the dogs

under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

29. And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30. And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, in the Name of Jesus we call upon Thee in prayer. Hear us and have mercy upon us for His sake, for we have sinned against Thee. We come to thank Thee for the light of this new day; during the darkness of the night, now past and gone, Thou wert mindful of us, the pulse of our life did not stop, because sustained by Thee. For the joy and gladness of this day we praise Thee, and we ask that Thy blessing may rest abundantly upon us. If we have a special need to-day, may there come to us a special blessing. O Lord, Thou knowest all; we pray that Thou wilt open up our way for us in the future; often we want to see, but let us not be impatient; rather may we wait with the joy of eager anticipation for those gifts of love and mercy which Thou dost delight to bestow on them that fear and honour Thee. Keep us pure and holy in heart; cleanse us from those things which defile and make for evil. Give us of the children's bread, for we are of Thy family by creation, and through adoption. Hear us, O Lord, in this our prayer, and answer us, not for our sake, but only for Christ's; and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

DANIEL 6. 1-14.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

2. And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

3. Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

4. Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom, but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

5. Then said these men, We shall

not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

6. Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, Darius, live for ever.

7. All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any god or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of the lions.

8. Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

9. Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

10. Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

11. Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

12. Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God

or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

13. Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

14. Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND GRACIOUS God, we would adore and worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. Thou art great and greatly to be praised. Thou art holy, yea, infinitely holy, and yet Thou art pleased to accept the worship of those who are of a humble and contrite heart; enable us so to become before Thee now, O Lord. Blot out even as a thick cloud our transgressions, and let us rejoice in the smile of Thy favour. May we know more and more the value and the power of prayer. Even as Thy servant Daniel, may we kneel upon our knees, and pray unto Thee for Thy pardoning mercy, and Thy guidance and comfort, in every time of need. Be pleased to bless us each one at this time; direct and prosper us in the concerns of this day. Let us not be deterred by threats or sneers from doing that which would please Thee. Let us never be afraid to do our duty, both to our country and to our God. Forgive our many failures, for Christ's sake. Be near us when the day closes; protect us when the night comes, and we fall asleep, and may the day leave us in some measure more like Thyself, and nearer our eternal home. And Thine shall be all the praise and all the honour and all the glory, now and for evermore. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

DANIEL 6. 15-28.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

15. Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

16. Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast

him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

17. And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his

lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

18. Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

19. Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

20. And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

21. Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

22. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

23. Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of

hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

24. And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

25. Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

26. I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

27. He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

28. So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Prayer

O THOU who art the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of Daniel and of Thy people through all the ages, we worship and adore Thee at this time in the Name of Jesus. Bless to us this wonderful record of Thy deliverance of Thy servant who, putting his trust and confidence in Thee, and humbly and courageously doing that which was right, was saved and delivered by Thy divine power, from the lion's den. Blessed be Thy holy name, O Lord, Thou art still the same, able and willing to save and bless us, and all those who truly put their trust in Thee. We thank Thee that we have not been called upon to pass through persecution; our way through life has been unmolested. And yet, O Lord, we too have our trials and difficulties, our discouragements and disappointments. We would come to Thee and tell Thee of them; be pleased to deliver us; to provide a way of escape. Hear and answer us when we cry unto Thee, O God; save us in our time of need. For the mercies of to-day we thank Thee; continue unto us Thy goodness and mercy; take away our many sins, and let the smile of Thy favour ever rest upon us, and upon all whom we love, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

JEREMIAH 31. 27-40.

Friday

Scripture Selection

27. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

28. And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the Lord.

29. In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

30. But everyone shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth of a sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

31. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord:

33. But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

34. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the

Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

35. Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name:

36. If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

37. Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord.

38. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the city shall be built to the Lord from the tower of Hanneel unto the gate of the corner.

39. And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath.

40. And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the Lord; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

Prayer

ONCE more in Thy goodness and mercy bestowed upon us we are assembled round our family altar, O Lord, to worship Thee. Have mercy upon us as we kneel in Thy Holy presence, for Christ's sake. With grateful hearts we acknowledge the blessings bestowed upon us; with humble and contrite hearts we would confess our transgressions and our sins. Help us ever truly to live the Christian life, encourage us with Thy word of cheer, and Thy smile of favour from day to day. Give us a wider and broader outlook; let not the horizon limit our vision, but with the eye of faith may we discern that city whither we are going,

whose citizens we are, "whose builder and maker is God." We pray at this time for the coming, for the hastening of Thy Kingdom. Bless Thy gospel over all the earth: may the glad time soon come when all men shall know the Lord, "from the least of them unto the greatest of them." Help us in our little way to do what we can to hasten on that glorious time. Graciously hear this our prayer, and let the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, ever keep our hearts and minds through Jesus Christ; for His sake we ask all. Amen.

ELEVENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 2. 1-12.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2. I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

3. And keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

4. That the Lord may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

5. Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruliah did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner, and unto Amasa the son of Jether, whom he slew, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that was about his loins, and in his shoes that were on his feet.

6. Do therefore according to thy

wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace.

7. But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother.

8. And, behold, thou hast with thee Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim, which cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim: but he came down to meet me at Jordan, and I sware to him by the Lord, saying, I will not put thee to death with the sword.

9. Now therefore hold him not guiltless: for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood.

10. So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

11. And the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years: seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.

12. Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.

Prayer

ANOTHER week has almost run its course, O Lord. Here we are on its closing day permitted to assemble ourselves as a family for Thy worship. How tender, how unceasing, has been Thy care ever towards us; Thou hast never forgotten us; Thou hast abundantly supplied our daily wants. We desire truly to thank Thee, O Father. Forgive wherein we have so often been

unworthy and forgetful of Thy mercies. Let Thy blessing descend upon us now, as we kneel in Thy Holy presence. Guide and guard us through all this day. Give us grace so to live that when we come to the end of life we shall not be afraid of the future. May the charge of Thy dying servant ring in our ears and echo in our hearts, and find full expression in our lives: "Be Thou strong, therefore, and show Thyself a man, and keep the charge of the Lord Thy God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His statutes." Thus doing, may we prosper in all that we undertake and wherever we may go. We commit ourselves and all whom we love to Thy fatherly care; unite us all together in the bundle of life, and finally at the last receive us all into Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

PSALM 95.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 559

Scripture Selection

1. O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

2. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

3. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

4. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.

5. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the mountains.

6. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

7. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. To-day if ye will hear his voice,

8. Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

9. When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.

10. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:

11. Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

Prayer

O LORD OUR GOD, who hast created the Sabbath for man, and who dost require of us that we shall keep it holy, hear us now when we seek to worship Thee in the exercise of prayer. We rejoice to see the light of this sacred day, and may we truly enjoy it. How many there are who are not permitted so to do, for they are on beds of suffering and pain, and many others are saddened by sorrow and bereavement. We praise Thee, O Lord, for Thy mercy unto us. Let this day be a happy and a holy one; free us from the anxieties of our everyday life, even its lawful plans and pleasures may we forget in our enjoyment of Thyself, and of the holy privileges within our reach. Let us be mindful of Thy claims upon us, O Lord, and when the hour

comes for the service of Thy Holy House may we delight to go thither, and sing unto Thee, yea, "make a joyful noise unto the rock of our salvation." "Let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker, for He is our God." When the shadows fall at eventide, Lord, abide with us, and when we say farewell to the day, ere sleep has overtaken us, may our thoughts be still of Thee, and of Thy goodness unto us. Bless our loved ones and keep them ever in Thy tender care. Fit us by the privileges of this day for the coming week, with its duties and labours, its joys and sorrows, its difficulties and temptations. And we ask all, only in Christ's Name. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

1 SAMUEL 1. 1-18.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-sophim, of mount Ephraim (and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite:

2. And he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

3. And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the Lord of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the Lord, were there.

4. And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

5. But unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the Lord had shut up her womb.

6. And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the Lord had shut up her womb.

7. And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the Lord, so she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat.

8. Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?

9. So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the Lord.

10. And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore.

11. And she vowed a vow, and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then will I give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

12. And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth.

13. Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

14. And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

15. And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord.

16. Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

17. Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

18. And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we thank Thee for Thy Holy Word, for the records it contains of men and women, who lived in ancient times, of like passions as ourselves, and whose sorrows and whose troubles were comforted and relieved by Thee. Encouraged by their experience, we come to Thee, for Thou art the same prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God, through all the ages. Thou knowest our sorrows and troubles, our anxieties and our cares; be pleased to help us in our time of need. As we go away from Thy presence now, may it be with gladdened hearts, because Thou hast spoken unto us a message of comfort and of cheer. Help us to face the future with courage and boldness; let Thy Holy Word shine upon our pathway; let Thy voice whisper in our hearts "Be not afraid." How kind Thou hast been unto us this day we gladly acknowledge; how patient with our many sins and faults. Help us to do better by Thy grace, and lead us in the paths of righteousness for Thy own Name's sake. We would remember our friends in this our time of worship; bless them abundantly, for Christ's sake, O Lord. May all our names be found written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and so we shall meet by and bye in Thy presence, to serve and to praise Thee, for ever and ever. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

1 SAMUEL 3.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

2. And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see;

3. And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;

4. That the Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

5. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6. And the Lord called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

7. Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him.

8. And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child.

9. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10. And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

11. And the Lord said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

12. And that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.

13. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; be-

cause his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

14. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

15. And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

16. Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered, Here am I.

17. And he said, What is the thing that the Lord hath said unto thee? I pray thee hide it not from me: God do so to thee, and more

also, if thou hide any thing from me of all the things that he said unto thee.

18. And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the Lord: let him do what seemeth him good.

19. And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

20. And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.

21. And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord.

Prayer

O Lord, Thou who didst long ago speak unto the young child Samuel as he ministered to Thee in Thy house, speak unto us at this time a word of comfort and of pardon, for Christ's sake. Bowed at the footstool of Thy mercy we would listen to Thy voice; "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth." Be with us, O Lord, as Thou wert with Samuel, to prosper and to bless us. May we rejoice to serve Thee in our daily duties; wilt Thou establish our goings, and enable us to live so that all may know that we are truly Thy servants. We thank Thee for the mercies of this day, for the tokens of Thy favour bestowed upon us. Forgive our unworthiness, O Lord, and grant to guide and keep us through what remains of it. Open up our way for us in the future; give us grace to trust Thee for it. In this present may our service be loyal and honest and true to our fellowmen, and, above all, to Thee. Bless likewise all for whom we ought to pray; be very gracious unto them, and bring us all home finally to Thy Heavenly Kingdom, for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

PSALM 32.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

2. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

4. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

5. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

6. For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

7. Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trou-

ble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. *Selah.*

8. I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

9. Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be

held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

10. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.

11. Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

Prayer

HUMBLY and penitently would we draw nigh unto Thy Holy presence, O Lord, to acknowledge our transgressions unto Thee; forgive us the iniquity of our sins, for Christ's sake. May we truly say with the Psalmist, "Thou art our hiding place; Thou shalt preserve us from trouble. Compass us about with songs of deliverance and with mercy; instruct and teach us in the way wherein we shall go." Take away from us our stubbornness of heart, and may we be glad in Thee, O Lord, and shout for joy as we draw nearer and nearer our eternal home. May our Christian life be ever a joyous one, even when clouds and storms gather, let there be ever in our hearts Thy peace and joy, for we trust in Thee, O Lord. Be near us during all of this day, and when it comes to a close may we have no regrets, but rather the satisfaction of knowing that it has not been spent in vain, that we have in some measure pleased and glorified Thee. Remember our friends in Thy tender mercy, O Lord, and keep us and them alike in Thy Holy care until we come to the end of our earthly journey; then for Christ's sake welcome us home to be with Thyself for ever and ever. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

RUTH 1.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Beth-lehem-judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons.

2. And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Beth-lehem-judah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there.

3. And Elimelech Naomi's husband died; and she was left, and her two sons.

4. And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one was Orpah, and the name

of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten years.

5. And Mahlon and Chilion died also both of them; and the woman was left of her two sons and her husband.

6. Then she arose with her daughters in law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the Lord had visited his people in giving them bread.

7. Wherefore she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters in law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah.

8. And Naomi said unto her two daughters in law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the Lord

deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me.

9. The Lord grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them: and they lifted up their voice and wept.

10. And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people.

11. And Naomi said, Turn again, my daughters: why will ye go with me? are there yet any more sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?

12. Turn again, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should have an husband also to-night, and should also bear sons;

13. Would ye tarry for them till they were grown? would ye stay for them from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes that the hand of the Lord is gone out against me.

14. And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.

15. And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law.

16. And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and whither thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

17. Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.

18. When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.

19. So they two went until they came to Beth-lehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Beth-lehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, Is this Naomi?

20. And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.

21. I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

22. So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Beth-lehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

Prayer

O GOD OF BETHEL, Thou who hast led Thy people by a strange and wonderful way through the many years that are gone, and who hast been their stay and comfort in every time of sorrow and distress, and their helper in every difficulty and perplexity, we come to worship Thee and to call upon Thy holy name in prayer. Often Thou hast helped us; often Thou hast guided us when we were in doubt in bygone days. Here we are before Thee, O Lord, the monuments of Thy goodness and of Thy love, needing Thy continued mercies. Gratefully we praise Thy Holy Name for all our past and present blessings, and we beseech Thee to continue Thy loving kindness unto us during the future. Lord, withhold no needed blessings from us, for Christ's sake. Let not the way be too rough for us, let not the road be too difficult, for our strength is weak, and our faith is feeble. Our hope and our trust are in Thee alone, O Lord; bring us to where in our latter days we shall enjoy a large measure of rest of body, and peace of mind, if it be Thy Holy will. Fulfil unto us the promises of Thy Holy Word, so shall we rejoice and be glad in Thee. Hear us in this our prayer; forgive if we have asked amiss; answer us as Thou seest best, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

RUTH 2. 1-17.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

2. And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.

3. And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field *belonging* unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.

4. And, behold, Boaz came from Beth-lehem, and said unto the reapers, The Lord be with you. And they answered him, The Lord bless thee.

5. Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers, Whose damsel is this?

6. And the servant that was set over the reapers answered and said, It is the Moabitish damsel that came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab:

7. And she said, I pray you, let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves: so she came, and hath continued even from the morning until now, that she tarried a little in the house.

8. Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens:

9. Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn.

10. Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

11. And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.

12. The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.

13. Then she said, Let me find favour in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, though I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens.

14. And Boaz said unto her, At mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar. And she sat beside the reapers: and he reached her parched corn, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left.

15. And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not:

16. And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.

17. So she gleaned in the field until even, and beat out that she had gleaned: and it was about an ephah of barley.

Prayer

GRACIOUS God, in the Name of Jesus we bow before Thee; hear us when we call upon Thee for His sake. Very unworthy are we, O Lord, even to come into Thy Holy presence. Many are the sins that lie upon our conscience and life; take them away, we humbly pray, in His precious blood, and so shall we be acceptable in Thy Holy sight. Enable us to rightly perform

our duties this day, whether in the office, in the home, in the school, in the factory, or wherever our sphere of labour lies; therein may we truly serve Thee. Prosper us in our undertakings; give unto us as much of this world's goods as Thou seest best; withhold no good things from us, for we would walk uprightly. Strengthen us for the trials and conflicts of life; in them all may we come off more than conquerors, through Him that loveth us. Let us not escape from Thy care throughout this day, for, alas, often we desire to wander from the narrow road into the bypaths of sin. Bring us all home safely at eventide; may the day close over us in peace and contentment; may night bring unto us sweet and refreshing sleep; may morning bring us another day of work and service for others, and above all for Thee. We ask all through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TWELFTH WEEK.

RUTH 4. 1-17.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Then went Boas up to the gate, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boas spake came by; unto whom he said, Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here. And he turned aside, and sat down.

2. And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, Sit ye down here. And they sat down.

3. And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's:

4. And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy it before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it: but if thou wilt not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee. And he said, I will redeem it.

5. Then said Boas, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy it also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.

6. And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.

7. Now this was the manner in former times in Israel concerning

redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel.

8. Therefore the kinsman said unto Boas, Buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe.

9. And Boas said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi.

10. Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.

11. And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said, We are witnesses. The Lord make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem:

12. And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the Lord shall give thee of this young woman.

13. So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the Lord gave her conception, and she bare a son.

14. And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel.

15. And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter

in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.

16. And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

17. And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Prayer

"OUR FATHER Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever." Hear us as thus we pray unto Thee, O Lord, as Christ Himself has taught us, and abundantly answer us for His sake. In Thy mercy and love we have come to the closing day of this week; keep us throughout this day. In our work and in our pleasures, smile upon us with Thy favour; shield us from dangers seen and unseen, and when night comes, and the week is slipping swiftly away, may we have the assurance in our hearts that it has not been lived in vain, that we have made a week's journey upward and heavenward. Prepare us for the coming Sabbath by the rest of the night. Bless those who are dear to us; comfort any who may be in trouble or affliction, and all we ask is only for Christ's sake. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

EZEKIEL 37. 1-14.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 499

Scripture Selection

1. The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,

2. And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

3. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.

4. Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say

unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5. Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

6. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

7. So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking,

and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

8. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

9. Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

10. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

11. Then he said unto me, Son of

man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost, we are cut off for our parts.

12. Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13. And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,

14. And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord.

Prayer

LET Thy mercy be upon us now, O Lord, as we bow in Thy Holy presence. For this Sabbath day of rest and peace, of joy and gladness, we praise and thank Thee; help us truly to enjoy and appreciate its privileges; may Thy service be unto us a delight. May we be glad when it is said unto us, "Let us go into the house of the Lord"; speak to us there through the reading and preaching of Thy Holy Word, inspired by Thy Holy Spirit, and thus may our souls be blessed and our faith strengthened. We pray, O Lord, for the extension of Thy cause and of Thy Kingdom everywhere this day. Let Thy Spirit come upon the nations, and breathe upon them that they may live. Fulfil speedily Thine own promise, "As truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord." We pray for those in sorrow and trouble; lovingly comfort those who mourn; tenderly raise up those who are bowed down. And now, Lord, hear this our prayer, be very gracious unto us, and take away our many sins. Bless all who are dear to us; and when this day draws to a close, Lord, draw nigh to us, and breathe upon us a Sabbath blessing. For Christ's sake we ask all. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

JAMES 1.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3. Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth

is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

8. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

9. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

10. But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.

11. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

17. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

18. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

20. For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

21. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

22. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

23. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24. For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

26. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

27. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, let this portion from Thy Holy Word we have just read be profitable unto our souls. We come to Thee for wisdom and every needed blessing; in faith, nothing wavering, we would ask Thee, O Lord, to bestow liberally unto us according to our needs; help us truly to live the Christian life, to endure temptation, so that we may receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him. We thank Thee for Thy many gifts unto us; may we ever remember that they all come from Thee, Thou who art the Father of lights; with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. May we be doers of the Word, and not hearers only. May our religion be pure and undefiled; may its expression be in seeking to bless and to comfort others, and in keeping ourselves, by Thy grace,

unspotted from the world. Be with us throughout this day, and this week, O Lord. Bless us in our daily work and labour. May the influences of the Holy Sabbath still cling to us, and exercise their uplifting power over our hearts and lives. Pardon our many sins, and all we ask is only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

PSALM 104. 1-33.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

2. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

3. Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

4. Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

5. Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.

6. Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.

7. At thy re-voice they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.

8. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.

9. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.

10. He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.

11. They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.

12. By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches.

13. He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.

14. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

15. And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

16. The trees of the Lord are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;

17. Where the birds make their nests: as for the stork, the fir trees are her house.

18. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies.

19. He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.

20. Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.

21. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

22. The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.

23. Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.

Prayer

WITH the Psalmist of old we would say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord, my God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with honour and majesty; Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment; Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain." For Thy great and marvellous works, in Creation and Providence, O Lord, we praise Thee, Thou that hast created and

Thou that dost preserve all things, animate and inanimate. But Thou art specially mindful of us, whom Thou hast created in Thine own image, and endowed with gifts and powers to fit them for Thy presence hereafter. Let Thy blessing, Almighty God, descend abundantly upon us now, for Christ's sake. Forgive us our many and grievous transgressions, and enable us truly to honour and glorify Thee. Give us strength to go forth unto our labour until the evening, and then, when Thou makest darkness, and it is night, draw near to us, O Lord, and shield us from all danger. Take away from our hearts the terrors of the night; refresh us with sleep, and awaken us in the morning light prepared for the work of another day. Be pleased to accept of our homage and worship at this time, O God, for we offer it unto Thee, in the ever-blessed Name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, Thy well-beloved Son. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

PSALM 104. 24-35.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

24. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

25. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.

26. There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.

27. These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.

28. That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.

29. Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away

their breath, they die, and return to their dust.

30. Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

31. The glory of the Lord shall endure for ever: the Lord shall rejoice in his works.

32. He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke.

33. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

34. My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.

35. Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord.

Prayer

In lowly adoration and praise we would join with the sweet singer of Israel and say, "O Lord, how manifold are Thy works, in wisdom hast Thou made them all, the earth is full of Thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts." Thou hast permitted us to gaze upon some of the beauties of the earth; Thou hast privileged us to travel upon the great deep, and behold the great and wide sea. We rejoice that we have learned to know Thee as the Creator of all, and by a lifelong and blessed experience we know Thee also, O Lord, as the source whence all our

needs are supplied, for Thine hand has ever been opened for us, and we are filled with good. We will sing unto the Lord as long as we live; we will sing praise unto our God while we have our being. Let our meditation of Thee be sweet; let us be glad in the Lord. May our worship of Thee at this time be acceptable, for we offer it only in Christ's Name, and for Christ's sake. May we leave Thy presence with the smile of Thy grace resting upon us, and with Thy peace and joy in our hearts, saying to ourselves, "Bless thou the Lord, O my soul; praise ye the Lord." Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 25. 1-13.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4. But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

13. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, we thank Thee not alone for Thy loving invitations of pardon and peace, but also for Thy solemn words of warning, should we fail to make due and fitting preparation for Thy coming. In Thy goodness forbid that any of us should ever stand outside the door and vainly say, "Lord, Lord, open unto us." Forbid that we should neglect our day of grace and salvation. Thou wilt surely come; may we have wisdom to live, waiting and watching, so that we may be ready and eager when Thou comest to enter in with Thee to the marriage feast of Heaven. For Thy gospel and all it means we praise Thy Holy Name; incline our hearts to accept it, O Lord. Let Thy blessing descend upon us now, when, as a family, we kneel before Thee. For all we enjoy we humbly thank Thee; let no evil befall us throughout this day. If we have any special need give unto

us a special blessing. Let not life's daily duties oppress us, nor be too great a burden. May we learn to cast our cares upon Thee, for Thou dost care for us. We pray also for those whom we love; watch over us all with Thy tender care, and bring us in Thine own good time to be with Thyself for ever and ever. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

ST. JOHN 14. 1-24.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
2. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
3. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
4. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
5. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
6. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
7. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.
8. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth me.
9. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?
10. Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
11. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
12. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
13. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
15. If ye love me, keep my commandments.
16. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
17. Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
18. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
19. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.
20. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.
21. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
22. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?
23. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
24. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

Prayer

BLESSED AND ADORABLE LORD JESUS, we thank Thee for these words of comfort, spoken to Thy first disciples, and which have been ever since a precious legacy to all who truly love and follow Thee. We would humbly, yet verily, say "We believe in God and also in Thee," therefore let not our heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Thou hast gone to prepare a place for us; enable us to prepare ourselves for our eternal and heavenly habitation. Leave us not comfortless, but come to us through the abiding presence of Thy Holy Spirit; manifest Thyself unto us, because we desire to keep Thy commandments. O Holy Trinity, come and make Thine abode with us and love us. And may there be given to Thee our love and our service and our all. For the goodness and mercy that have followed us to-day we praise Thee, O Lord. Forgive our many sins of omission and commission; as the day fades away, draw all the nearer to us, lest we be afraid. May our rest be undisturbed; may we awake in the morning prepared in mind and body for the responsibilities that lie before us. Let our worship now be acceptable in Thy Holy sight. We offer it in the Name that is above all other names, Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

THIRTEENTH WEEK.

1 TIMOTHY 6. 1-16.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.

2. And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

3. If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

4. He is proud, knowing nothing, but dotting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmising.

5. Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

6. But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10. For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

13. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14. That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15. Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

16. Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we ask Thee to hear us now when we call upon Thee in prayer, for Christ's sake. Humbly we would approach Thy mercy seat; forgive our sins and let us find acceptance in Thy Holy sight. Give us grace and strength to flee those things which would be to our hurt, and enable us "to follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." O help us, good Lord, to fight the good fight of faith, to lay hold upon eternal life whereunto we are called, and to profess a good profession before many witnesses. May our lives be holy and well-pleasing before Thee. Be mindful of us through all of this day, and when we forget, and would wander aside from the narrow path, whisper to us, O Father, and may we be obedient to Thy tender voice of warning and love. Take care of us when night comes, and guard our rest. For those whom we love we also pray. Comfort and bless any in sorrow; in Thy mercy save any who are lost; rescue any who are perishing. Now unto Him "who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who only hath immortality, dwelling in light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen, nor man can see, to Him be honour and power everlasting." Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ISAIAH 40. 18-31.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 276

Scripture Selection

18. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

19. The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains.

20. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

21. Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22. It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

23. That bringeth the princes to

nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity.

24. Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown; yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

25. To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

26. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

27. Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is

hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

28. Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

29. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

30. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fail:

31. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Prayer

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, to whom will we liken Thee, or what likeness will we compare unto Thee, O God? Thou art He "that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers"; Thou art He "that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in." We worship and adore Thee as the only living and true God, the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth. This is the day specially set apart for Thy worship and service; enable us by Thy Holy Spirit to find favour this Sabbath in Thy Holy sight. In our public and private exercises of worship may we be blessed abundantly, and may Thy great and Holy Name be truly magnified in our devotions. Bless us as a family, O Lord; bless us each one in our heart and life; graciously pardon all our sins, for Jesus' sake. May there be fulfilled to us the glorious vision of Thy servant the prophet, when he exclaimed, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Thus renewed and strengthened, may we enter to-morrow on the duties of everyday life. Bless all whom we hold dear; keep them in Thy loving care. Bless the preaching of Thy gospel at home and abroad this day. May many be converted unto Jesus Christ. And to Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, we will give all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ESTHER 3.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, and

advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

2. And all the king's servants that were in the king's gate, bowed, and revered Haman: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence.

3. Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, Why transgressed thou the king's commandment?

4. Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: for he had told them that he was a Jew.

5. And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath.

6. And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

7. In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

8. And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom: and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.

9. If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed:

and will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasures.

10. And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

11. And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

12. Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province, according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language: in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring.

13. And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

14. The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

15. The posts went out, being hastened by the king's commandment, and the decree was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city Shushan was perplexed.

Prayer

MOST GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL GOD, we bow humbly and reverently in Thy Holy presence, addressing Thee in prayer, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Let our sins be blotted out from the book of Thy remembrance, for His name's sake. We would be reconciled to Thee, O Lord, through His precious blood. For the many mercies Thou hast showered down upon us, we thank Thee; be pleased to continue unto us Thy goodness and in an increasing measure, for His sake. Preserve us as we go out and as we come in when fulfilling our duties and labours. Let Thy care never forsake us; forbid that we should ever be indifferent to Thy claims upon us. Marvellously Thou wert with Thine ancient people, bringing them through

many perils and difficulties. Lord, we bless Thee that Thou art still the same; as able and willing to bless now as in the days of old. Be with us at all times; our hope and trust would ever and only be in Thee. As we leave Thy Holy presence now may there come into our hearts the assurance that our prayer is heard, not for our asking, but because we offer it unto Thee in the all-prevailing Name of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ESTHER 4.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

2. And came even before the king's gate: for none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.

3. And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4. So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not.

5. Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

6. So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.

7. And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasures for the Jews, to destroy them.

8. Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.

9. And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

10. Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

11. All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live, but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

12. And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13. Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

14. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

15. Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

16. Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

17. So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

Prayer

O THOU, who art great and holy, the eternal Jehovah, we seek to worship Thee. Not as those of ancient times do we come, offering up the blood of bulls or goats; we praise Thee for the one eternal sacrifice of Thine only begotten Son on Calvary, whereby a new and living way is opened, by which even the vilest may have access into Thy Divine presence. It is thus we come, O Lord; have mercy upon us; pardon our sinfulness, and give us favour in Thy Holy sight. For the light of this day we thank Thee, and for Thy mercies continued unto us. Be with us through it all, and let it be one of progress and success in both temporal and spiritual affairs. May we have the courage and confidence to bring to Thee our troubles, our anxieties and our problems; help us in them; solve them for us, O Lord, and by a sweet experience may we know Thou art a present and omnipotent help in every time of need. And now, O Lord, what wait we for save Thy blessing? Let it richly descend upon us, and may "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds," now and for ever, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ESTHER 5.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

2. And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

3. Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? It shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

4. And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

5. Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the

king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

6. And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed.

7. Then answered Esther, and said, My petition and my request is;

8. If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to-morrow as the king hath said.

9. Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

10. Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.

11. And Haman told them of the

glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

12. Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to-morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

13. Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

14. Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to-morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, another day has in Thy mercy dawned upon us; safely Thou hast brought us through the darkness of the night. While many have been sleepless and suffering, we have enjoyed sweet and refreshing slumber; blessed be Thy Holy name. While others have spent the night in folly and sin, we praise Thee that Thou hast inclined our hearts to be pure and holy. Now we pray for Thy sustaining grace this day; apart from Thee, O Lord, our lives will be an utter failure; without Thy strength we shall surely fall by the way and lie down in sin. Come to our aid, gracious Saviour; help us to live the Christian life, and "to press towards the mark for the prize" of Thy calling. Bless us in our daily work; help us to give honest service to those for whom we labour, remembering that we serve one Master, even Christ. At eventide bring us around the family table in peace and safety. Grateful for Thy care through the day, we would, as little children, entrust ourselves to Thee for the night. Keep us, O Lord, for Thou only canst; and forgive our sins, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ESTHER 6.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

2. And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

3. And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the

king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

4. And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

5. And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

6. So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

7. And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

8. Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:

9. And let this apparel and horse be delivered into the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

10. Then the king said to Haman, Make te, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew,

that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

11. Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

12. And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

13. And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shall surely fall before him.

14. And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Prayer

O LORD OF Hosts, blessed is the man whose trust is in Thee; we praise Thee for all Thy wonderful dealings with us. Not more than others do we deserve, but Thou hast been pleased to give us more. We gratefully acknowledge that goodness and mercy have abundantly followed us all the days of our life. Continue to bless us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, for our hope and trust are in Thee alone. Supply our needs and wants for this new day, we humbly ask; help us to walk in the narrow way; let the fascination of sin wield no controlling power over us. Help us to profit by the solemn examples of many around us, who walk in darkness, and know not at what they stumble. May the Sabbath services still linger in our memories, and exert an influence for good over our lives. Let Thy mercy and love be with all near and dear to us; may our pathway through life be "as the dawning light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Forbid, O Lord, that any of us should fail to reach "the rest that remaineth for the people of God"; let none of us lose heart by the way. O cheer and encourage us. Graciously hear and answer our prayer, not as we have feebly asked, but as Thou seest best, for Christ's sake. Amen.

FOURTEENTH WEEK.

ESTHER 7.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

2. And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

3. Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:

4. For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.

5. Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

6. And Esther said, the adversary and enemy is this wicked

Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

7. And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8. Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth they covered Haman's face.

9. And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

10. So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we come into Thy Holy presence, pleading the gracious promise given us in Thy blessed word, "for the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee; neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed." Fulfil unto us this promise now, and along life's journey, O God, for Christ's sake, even as Thou hast in the way by which we have come. Deliver us in every time of need, for our trust is in Thee alone, O God. Marvellously didst Thou rescue Thy chosen people through a good queen when massacre seemed imminent; Thine arm is not shortened that it cannot save; neither is Thine ear heavy that it cannot hear. Lord, we pray to Thee; save us for Thy mercy's sake out of all our troubles. Many are Thy loving kindnesses unto us this day; we would truly thank Thee for them all. Forgive our unworthiness, O Lord, for Jesus' sake. Now accept of our worship and bless us as we kneel before Thee. Visit all whom we love with Thy salvation; number us all among Thy chosen ones. Be very near to us when darkness falls around us, and guard our rest. And we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for evermore. Amen.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told what he was unto her.

2. And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

3. And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and the device that he had devised against the Jews.

4. Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king.

5. And said, If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:

6. For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?

7. Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.

8. Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.

9. Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month *Sivan*, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieuten-

ants, and to the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

10. And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries:

11. Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

12. Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month *Adar*.

13. The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

14. So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastered and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.

15. And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.

16. The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.

17. And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.

Prayer

BECAUSE of Thy ceaseless care over us, and goodness unto us, O Lord, we have reached the closing day of this week; very many have been Thy mercies unto us day by day; we gratefully thank Thee for them all. Very many, alas, have been our shortcomings and transgressions, we humbly confess; may they all be forgiven and forgotten, for Jesus' sake. Wilt Thou be pleased to supply our needs for to-day; give us as Thou judgest best; withhold no good thing from us, for we would walk uprightly before Thee. In our homes may there be light and gladness; in our daily life, joy and honour. May we find favour in Thy sight and also in the sight of our fellow-men. Give unto us physical health and strength, we beseech Thee; if any of us are suffering or in feeble health, graciously restore such, for Thy Name's sake. When the week closes, and we seek our rest, may our minds be free from care; may our hearts be free from sin, and by sweet, refreshing sleep may we be fitted for keeping the Sabbath holy unto the Lord, by engaging in His service in private and in public. Hear and answer our prayer and accept us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

ACTS 16. 1-15.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Ps. Sol. 14

Scripture Selection

1. Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

2. Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3. Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

4. And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

5. And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

6. Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of

the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

7. After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

8. And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

9. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

11. Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;

12. And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

12. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spoke unto the women which resorted thither.

14. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord

opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15. And when she was baptised, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Prayer

In the quietness and solemnity, yet gladness, of this holy Sabbath, we would enter Thy presence, O Lord, in the Name of Jesus. Safely Thou hast brought us through the night; for our rest we thank Thee; for the large measure of health we enjoy, we praise Thee. Let this day be unto us a holy, happy day. Free us from the plans and pleasures, the worries and difficulties of everyday life; may they be forgotten for a little while; lift us up into fellowship with Thee, into the clearer and purer atmosphere of Thy worship and service. We would go this day where prayer is wont to be made, even to Thy sanctuary. There be pleased to meet and to bless us, so that we may more truly live to Thine honour and glory. If we are actively engaged in Christian work to-day, crown and bless our efforts, we earnestly pray, even if our sphere of influence be only by the river side, apart from the busy haunts of men. Bless Thy cause everywhere this day, O God; hasten the spread of Thy Kingdom; bless abundantly the preaching of Thy precious gospel in our own church, in our town, in our land, and throughout the wide, wide world. Bless our home in all its interests, and each one of us in particular; bless those who are dear to us, and bring us all in Thine own good time to enjoy an eternal Sabbath with Thyself, for Christ's sake. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

JAMES 5. 9-20.

Monday

Scripture Selection

9. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

10. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

12. But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by

heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

13. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

14. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall

raise him up; and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him.

18. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

17. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth

by the space of three years and six months.

18. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

19. Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

20. Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, help us truly now to pray unto Thee. May we know by blessed experience more and more the value, the privilege of prayer. May we remember that "the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Encourage us by the example of those who wrought mighty deeds by prayer; may we also be able to do great things for God. May we be the means in Thy hand of leading some, even many, to a saving knowledge of Thee, through Jesus Christ. We would pray for one another, and also for all whom we love; let Thy blessing richly descend upon us and upon them. Be with us during this day; direct us in its duties, and prosper us as Thou seest best. Fresh from the privileges of the past Sabbath, may we show by our walk and conduct that we were in Thy Holy presence, and heard Thy voice, and are endeavouring to show forth Thy glory. We leave ourselves in Thy Holy care; by day and by night watch over us, O Father, and finally bring us all at the last into Thy Heavenly Kingdom, to serve Thee for ever, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

ROMANS 8. 1-18.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

5. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any

man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

18. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Prayer

GRACIOUS God, we thank and bless Thee for the wonderful plan of salvation Thou hast provided for us through Jesus. In Thy sight we are lost and guilty sinners, but, blessed be Thy Holy Name, "there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." For Thy saving mercy bestowed upon us, we bless and magnify Thy blessed Name; may we be led by Thy Holy Spirit, and so we shall know that we are the sons of God, adopted into Thy family. Thus truly we may look up to Thee and say, "Abba, Father." O Holy Spirit, witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and let there come into our hearts and minds the glorious assurance that if children, then are we heirs, "heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ." Give us grace to live up to the measure of Thy high calling. May the sufferings of this present not dim our vision of the future, for they are not worthy to be compared to the glory which shall, through Jesus Christ, one day be revealed unto us. For the goodness received from Thy loving hand to-day we thank Thee, O Lord; be with us through it all; forgive our many sins; and all we ask is for Jesus' sake, and all our worship is given unto Thee, only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

2 CORINTHIANS 4.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2. But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by mani-

festation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4. In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them

which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

7. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

8. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9. Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

10. Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

11. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

12. So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

13. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

14. Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

15. For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

16. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Prayer

O LORD, we approach Thee in the exercise of prayer, coming into Thy Holy presence even as little children to an earthly father, in simple faith and trust. We bless Thy Holy Name that Thou who didst command light to shine out of darkness hath "shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." Thou hast been pleased to place this treasure of Thy grace and love "in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." We ask for strength to live the Christian life; often we are perplexed and discouraged by the way. May it ever be our great desire to bear in the body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Let our light affliction, which is but for a moment, work "for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory"; while we look, not at the things which are seen, for they are temporal, but at the things which are not seen, for they are eternal. Lord, bless our home; bless us each one; watch over us all by night as well as by day; let us not escape ever from Thy tender, loving care; pardon our many sins, and accept us, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

Thursday

PSALM 4.

Scripture Selection

1. Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.

2. O ye sons of men, how long will ye turn my glory into shame? how long will ye love vanity, and seek after leasing? Selah.

3. But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the Lord will hear when I call unto him.

4. Stand in awe, and sin not: com-

mune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.

5. Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the Lord.

6. There be many that say, Who will show us any good? Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

7. Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and their wine increased.

8. I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety.

Prayer

HEAR us, O God, when we call upon Thee, for Christ's sake. Have mercy upon us, and hear and answer our prayer. Many are the blessings Thou hast been pleased to give unto us in the bygone night and during this new day. Accept our humble thanks for all Thy goodness; fill our hearts with joy and gladness; let the smile of Thy favour ever rest upon us; prosper us in the work of this day. If it is specially trying or difficult, be specially near to us, to encourage and to help us. May sin not have dominion over us; let Thy Holy Spirit ever dwell and rule in our hearts, expelling that which would defile and destroy, and purifying our thoughts and desires. Guide us in the many problems of life; give us a clear perception, a good and firm judgment. So lead and direct us, O Lord, this day, and in all the coming future. When night comes and we lie down to sleep, may it be in peace, for wilt not Thou comfort us with the assurance that "Thou only makest us dwell in safety." We ask Thee to bless any who are absent, and all whom we love; remember them and us ever in Thy goodness and in Thy mercy, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

Friday

ISAIAH 38.

Scripture Selection

1. In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amos came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.

2. Then Hezekiah turned his face

toward the wall, and prayed unto the Lord,

3. And said, Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

4. Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah, saying.

5. Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.

6. And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city.

And this shall be a sign unto thee from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing that he hath spoken.

8. Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahas, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

9. The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness: thus:

10. I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years.

11. I said, I shall not see the Lord, even the Lord, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

12. Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life; he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

13. I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my

bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

Like a crane or a swallow, so I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O Lord, I am oppressed; undertake for me.

15. What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

16. O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live.

17. Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

18. For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit can not hope for thy truth.

19. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

20. The Lord was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the Lord.

21. For Isaiah had said, Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil, and he shall recover.

22. Hezekiah also had said, What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the Lord?

Prayer

O LORD GOD, Thou who didst mercifully hear the prayer of Hezekiah when he was sore distressed by sickness, and who didst graciously heal him by Thy divine power, we come to worship Thee. Thou hast been indeed kind and merciful unto us; through sickness Thou hast brought us, and we would sing songs of praise unto Thy great and Holy Name. Let us not be forgetful of Thy dealings toward us; may the remembrance of Thy mercy never pass from our memory, and may we ever seek to live to bless and glorify Thy Holy Name. If any of us now are ill, be pleased graciously to bless the means for our recovery. Give unto us all, we earnestly ask, health and strength of mind and of body, so that we may rightfully discharge life's duties. How frail our lives are, even at the best; they are as a vapour which

quickly passeth away. O that we may have grace given unto us truly to live, preparing for that life which knows no end with Thyself in Heaven. In mercy through Christ Jesus receive us and all who are dear to us, at the last to be with Thee for ever. Amen.

FIFTEENTH WEEK.

PSALM 63.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

2. To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

3. Because thy loving kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

4. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

5. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips;

6. When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

7. Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

8. My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

9. But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

10. They shall fall by the sword; they shall be a portion for foxes.

11. But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Prayer

O God, Thou who art our God, early will we seek Thee; our soul thirsteth for Thee, our flesh longeth for Thee in a dry and thirsty land where no water is, to see Thy power and Thy glory. Thy loving kindness is better unto us even than life, therefore our lips shall praise Thee. On our bed we have remembered Thee, and meditated upon Thee in the night watches. How delightful has been the recollection and recounting of all Thy loving kindness; how great has been the inspiration we have often received, as thus we have communed with Thee. We would indeed rejoice in the shadow of Thy wings, for Thou hast been our help; our soul would follow hard after Thee, for Thy right hand upholdeth us. In Thy mercy we are near the close of this week; we bless Thee, O Lord, for Thy goodness day by day; we have been kept; we have been blessed; Thou hast done all. Keep us still, O Lord, and when night comes cause sweet and gentle sleep to careen us till the Sabbath morning breaks, then awake us to enjoy its holy privileges. For Jesus' sake only we ask these blessings. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

ST. JOHN 9. 1-22.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 267

Scripture Selection

1. And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

2. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

3. Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

4. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

5. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

6. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7. And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is, by interpretation, Sent). He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8. The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

9. Some said, This is he; others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.

10. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11. He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

12. Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.

13. They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind.

14. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.

15. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see.

16. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.

17. They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet.

18. But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight.

19. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see?

20. His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind:

21. But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself.

22. These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews; for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.

Prayer

THE light of another blessed Sabbath has shone upon us, O Lord, and we lift up our hearts unto Thee in gratitude and in praise. Let this day come to us laden with rich blessings from Thy loving hand. Thou didst heal him who was born blind, on the Sabbath, Lord Jesus; in obedience to Thy word he went and washed in the pool of Siloam, and came back seeing, and worshipped Thee. Lord, give us this day spiritual sight; may we

behold Thee anew as our Saviour and Healer, and with grateful hearts may we, too, worship Thee. Speak to us in the services of Thy house; may our approach unto Thy Holy presence be acceptable; may the Holy Spirit take of the things that are divine and reveal them unto us; thus may our faith be strengthened and our love be renewed. In the quiet of our home life come to us, dear Lord, and bless to us our rest and meditation; draw our thoughts upward and heavenward; give us by faith even a glimpse of that holy city of light above; let its reality and its beauty become more and more visible unto us. Bless Thy cause and Thy Kingdom at home and abroad this day, hasten its coming; help us to do our part faithfully and well. In Thy goodness and mercy remember all dear to us; Lord, be with them all, to bless and comfort. At eventide draw near to us, and let the day close over us in rest and peace. Assure us our sins are forgiven in Jesus. For His sake we ask all. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

JUDGES 6. 1-13.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord: and the Lord delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

2. And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel; and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which were in the mountains, and caves, and strongholds.

3. And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

4. And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.

5. For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

6. And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites: and the children of Israel cried unto the Lord.

7. And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord because of the Midianites.

8. That the Lord sent a prophet

unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;

9. And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;

10. And I said unto you, I am the Lord your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.

11. And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

13. And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hand of the Midianites.

Prayer

On the threshold of another week we come, O Lord, into Thy Holy presence to seek Thy favour and Thy blessing. We thank Thee for Thy goodness in bringing us safely through another night, and now as we start once more life's daily duties and labours, O Lord, wilt Thou graciously direct and prosper us! May we feel refreshed and strengthened by the rest of the Sabbath; may we feel encouraged and cheered to live more truly the Christian life. Say unto us "I am the Lord thy God"; may we hear Thy voice, may we ever do Thy Holy will. Let not the things of this world, its pleasures and its sins allure us away from Thee. Save us, O Lord, from straying from the paths of righteousness and truth. Thou knowest our needs, our temporal wants; enable us to do our best, by our daily labour, to supply them; but crown all our efforts, O Lord, with Thy blessing, that blessing of Thine which maketh rich, and with which no sorrow is added. In Thy mercy forgive our many sins, for Christ's sake, and let us make a new start on the road that leads upward; the end of which is in Thy presence, where there is fullness of joy, and at Thy right hand, where there are pleasures for evermore. We commit ourselves and our interests into the keeping and the loving care of our Lord, now and for evermore. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

JUDGES 6. 14-27.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

14. And the Lord looked upon him and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

15. And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

16. And the Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

17. And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then show me a sign: thou talkest with me.

18. Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

19. And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he

put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it.

20. And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so.

21. Then the angel of the Lord put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the Lord departed out of his sight.

22. And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face.

23. And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.

24. Then Gideon built an altar there unto the Lord, and called it Jehovah-shalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiesrites.

25. And it came to pass the same night, that the Lord said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:

26. And build an altar unto the

Lord thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

27. Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the Lord had said unto him; and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, hear us when we seek Thee now in the privilege of prayer. Thy people of old cried unto Thee in their trouble, and, even though grievous sinners in Thy sight, Thou didst hear, and bring them out of their sorrows, by means of Thy servant Gideon. O Lord, look upon us when we are puzzled and perplexed, and send us forward by Thy might, with Thine own promise of comfort and strength ringing in our ears and cheering our hearts. O that we might more truly and faithfully serve Thee at home and among the busy marts of men. If there is any idol that we worship, Lord, help us boldly to tear it down, so that we may give Thee all the worship and all the honour and all the praise. Keep us loyal and true by the indwelling of Thy Holy Spirit. Forgive us wherein we have, alas, often grieved Thee in thought, word and deed, and let there come to our aid in the struggle against sin Thy divine power, so that we may gain the victory. Remember us throughout the day, bless us in our labours and duties, bring us a' her at eventide, and at night when we seek our rest may angels hover over us, because we are Thine, for Jesus' sake Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

JUDGES 6. 28-40.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

28. And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built.

29. And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.

30. Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die; because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because

he hath cut down the grove that was by it.

31. And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? ye save him? he that will plead ~~and~~ him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar.

32. Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

33. Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of

the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jeariel.

34. But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him.

35. And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him; and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

36. And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

37. Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be

on the fleece only, and if be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

38. And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

39. And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

40. And God did so that night, for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

Prayer

O God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of Gideon, and of Thy people in all ages and in all times, we come to worship Thee before the footstool of Thy mercy. Be pleased to hear us, for Christ's sake. Strengthen our faith in Thy promises, even by such experiences as shall lead us firmly to know that Thou art with us, that Thou art leading and guiding us from day to day. Specially direct us in any service we may seek to do in Thy name. Give us courage and consecration and wisdom, so that with Thy blessing we may accomplish every task and discharge every duty. We pray for the hastening of Thy Kingdom, O Lord; let the time speedily come when all false worship shall be overthrown, and Jesus Christ shall reign over all the earth, King of kings and Lord of lords. Be pleased to use even us as instruments of Thine, to help in some little measure the coming of that glorious day. Grant unto us as a family Thine abundant blessing. We have erected this family altar, O Lord, to Thee; graciously accept now and always the offerings of worship we make unto Thee here, not because of any merit in us, but because of the perfect righteousness of Him who is our Lord and Redeemer, Thine only begotten Son, to whom with Thee and the Holy Spirit be all the praise, and all the glory, now and ever. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

JUDGES 7. 1-14.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2. And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

3. Now therefore go to, proclaim

in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

4. And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water; and I will try them for thee there; and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

5. So he brought down the people unto the water; and the Lord said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

6. And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men; but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

7. And the Lord said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand; and let all the other people go every man unto his place.

8. So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets; and he sent all the rest of Israel every man unto his tent, and retained

those three hundred men; and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

9. And it came to pass the same night, that the Lord said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.

10. But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host:

11. And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host. Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that were in the host.

12. And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

13. And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.

14. And his fellow answered and said, That is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.

Prayer

O LORD, Thou art the only living and true God; Thou art infinitely wise and powerful; Thou alone art the source of all knowledge. How unsearchable are Thy judgments, and Thy ways are past finding out. How wonderfully and how wisely Thou didst direct Thy servant Gideon in his efforts to save his people from the enemies that had sorely oppressed them. His experience we would make a help and inspiration for ourselves, O Lord. We have our foes to fight, and, alas, they seem too many for us oftentimes. We come to Thee in our distress and weakness, and we pray Thee to direct us, to help us, so that there may be for us also a great deliverance. Let us never despair when the outlook is dark. Enable us, O Lord, to try the uplook. Now as we kneel before Thee be pleased to bless us, as Thou seest we need. We rejoice in the light of another day; we praise Thee for Thy mercies continued unto us. Graciously bless us

yet more and more. Take us into Thy fatherly care this day wherever we go. Let Thy good hand of mercy and blessing and restraint rest upon us, and when the day ends may we have the comfort in our hearts that it has not been ill-spent, but that it has been a day of progress in temporal, but, above all, in spiritual concerns. Hear us and forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

JUDGES 7. 15-23.

Friday

Scripture Selection

15. And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the Lord hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.

16. And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

17. And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do.

18. When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon.

19. So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and

they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands.

20. And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon.

21. And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

22. And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the Lord set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zere-rath, and to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath.

23. And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, in Thy loving-kindness we are permitted once again to gather round our family altar and lift up our hearts to Thee in prayer. Many are the blessings we have received from Thy gracious hand; only from Thee have they come, for Thou art the giver of all. We thank Thee, O God, and pray Thee to forgive our unworthiness, for Jesus' sake. Help us day by day loyally to serve Thee. In our struggle against sin may the war cry of Thy faithful servant be animating to us. Thou didst bless him and give him success and victory as he shouted "the sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Lord, bless and prosper us, as in Thy Name we too go forth to fight and work for Thy cause. Let us remember that we fight "not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Keep us throughout this day, O God. When night falls may

we come home in peace and safety. When the hour for rest comes, Lord, take special care of us during the night watches, for we cannot care for ourselves; thus may the day end in calm and peace, for Christ's sake. Amen.

SIXTEENTH WEEK.

PROVERBS 10. 18-33.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

18. Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
19. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.
20. He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whose trusteth in the Lord, happy is he.
21. The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.
22. Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.
23. The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.
24. Pleasant words are as an honey-comb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.
25. There is a way that seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death.
26. He that laboureth laboureth for himself; for his mouth craveth it of him.
27. An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips, there is as a burning fire.
28. A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.
29. A violent man enticeth his neighbour, and leadeth him into the way that is not good.
30. He shutteth his eyes to devise froward things: moving his lips he bringeth evil to pass.
31. The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.
32. He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.
33. The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, in this closing day of the week we come to worship Thee. With grateful hearts we own the countless mercies Thou hast bestowed on us. With shamed and contrite hearts we confess how forgetful and sinful we have been; pardon and restore us to Thy favour, for Jesus' sake. Give unto us a hungering and a thirsting after righteousness. Imbue us with wisdom, so that we may day by day walk in the narrow road that leadeth to life eternal with Thyself. Help us to govern and to control our lives, remembering always that "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." Guide us in all the concerns of to-day; may the week close over us in peace; may the night bring to us sweet, refreshing slumbers; may the morning bring to us a sweet and solemn Sabbath of rest, and the privilege and joy of service. Remember all whom we love and are dear to us; bless them as Thou seest best. Draw us all closer to Thyself day by day, and call us home at life's eventide to be for ever with Thyself. For Christ's sake only we ask all. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

ISAIAH 56. 1-8.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 122

Scripture Selection

1. Thus saith the Lord, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

2. Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

3. Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the Lord, speak, saying, The Lord hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree.

4. For thus saith the Lord unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant;

5. Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a

place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

6. Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;

7. Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

8. The Lord God which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

Prayer

THE light and gladness of another Sabbath day have shone upon us, O Lord, and we bless and magnify Thy Holy Name. May the message of the royal prophet ever be remembered by us, "Blessed is the man that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil." Enable us this day to keep back the tide of pleasure and life's problems and duties, upon which we float during the week. In the calm and serenity of Thy Holy presence, in the sunshine of Thy smile, in the rightly fulfilling and enjoying of the duties and privileges coming to us, may we spend our holy hours. Free us from cares and anxiety for a little while; if we have pain, either physical or mental, release us, Good Lord, if only for a little season. At the appointed hour bring us to Thy holy mountain and make us joyful in Thy House of Prayer; let our offerings and sacrifices be accepted upon Thine altar. Bless this day everywhere the progress of the gospel; may it have free course among the nations, and thus the coming of Thy Kingdom be hastened. At eventide, when the day is passing for ever, Lord Jesus, abide Thou with us, for Thou art our comfort and hope, our all in all, now and throughout eternity. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

Monday

HEBREWS 11. 1-12.

Scripture Selection

1. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

4. By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5. By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, ^{because} God had translated him: before his translation he had ^{this} testimony, that he pleased God.

6. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7. By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet,

moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8. By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10. For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, we praise Thee for the great and noble men and women who, living in the dim and misty ages of the past, were strong in their faith in Thee as their Creator, their Benefactor and their Deliverer. May their lives ever be an inspiration and a comfort to us; may our faith be even as theirs, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Give us grace and wisdom when toiling and moiling in the city, in the town, in the village or country, to look beyond the mere present, and to see by faith that "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God," and of which the Lamb is the light thereof. Prepare us for walking its streets of gold, for living its life, and partaking of its everlasting joys. Throughout this day and week keep us, O Lord, in Thy Holy care; prosper us as we do our daily labour; be with us in our home; go with us wherever duty and pleasure may take us. Let Thy tender yet mighty hand of love and power ever rest upon us, for we hope in Thee. Give us even more than we ask or think, not because we are worthy, but because of the worthiness of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ever for His sake bless us and forgive our sins; and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and throughout eternity. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

HEBREWS 11. 13-29.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

12. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

... By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

18. Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

19. Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

20. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

21. By faith Jacob, when he was

a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

22. By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

23. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25. Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28. Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29. By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, encouraged by the experiences of all those who in bygone days looked to Thee, and, trusting in Thy promises, never were disappointed nor put to confusion, we come now likewise to ask for Thy guidance, Thy favour, and Thy blessing. As strangers and pilgrims may we live, desiring a better country, that is, a heavenly. Be Thou our God; prepare for us a city, even an everlasting dwelling place with Thyself. Help us to walk, to live, by faith, and not by sight. Let our future be crowned with richer and greater blessings than our past or even this present. If our road be rough, smooth it for us, O Lord; if tortuous, straighten it; if unknown, "send forth Thy light and Thy truth; let them be guides unto us, and bring us unto Thy holy hill," Mount Zion, the new Jerusalem. We pray for Thy blessing upon us each one during this new day, for without it we are but poor indeed. Give unto us in our daily labour

Thy smile, Thy favour, and the sense of Thy Holy presence. Keep us from growing careless or indifferent, especially in our religious duties. Help us to make our lives a great success temporally, but, above all, spiritually. Forgive our many sins, and all only for His sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

HEB. 11. 30-40; HEB. 12. 1, 2.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

30. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

31. By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

32. And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

33. Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

34. Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the army of the aliens.

35. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

36. And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

37. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

38. (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

40. God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

1. Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

2. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Prayer

AND now, O Father, we would speak to Thee in prayer. We rejoice that without fear or terror we may worship Thee. Thy Word is not hidden from us; it is free and easily within our reach. We are thankful that our lot is not cast in time of persecution or oppression, but in an age and in a land where liberty and protection prevail. For these inestimable privileges, purchased by the blood of many martyrs, we truly praise and bless Thee, O Lord. But above all, we bless Thee for the giving to us, the fulfilment of Thy promise of a Redeemer, in the person of Thine only begotten Son. We rejoice that He has indeed come; may He be, indeed, our Saviour, our Lord, our everlasting Friend. In the galleries of Heaven those who have gone before,

who have run their race, and won the prize, are watching us; "seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses," enable us to lay aside, O Lord, "every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith." And when the struggle is ended, give unto us, O Lord, for Christ's sake, that crown of life that fadeth not away. And Thine shall be all the glory and all the praise, now and for ever. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

LUKE 14. 1-14.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him.

2. And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy.

3. And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day?

4. And they held their peace. And he took him, and healed him, and let him go;

5. And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?

6. And they could not answer him again to these things.

7. And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,

8. When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more hon-

ourable man than thou be bidden of him;

9. And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.

10. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

11. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

12. Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.

13. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:

14. And thou shalt be blest; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, in Thy Holy Name we draw nigh to worship the Father. Be pleased to intercede for us, that all our sins may be forgiven. Cleanse us in Thy precious blood, for that alone can take away our stains. Heal us of our trouble of mind or of body, for Thou art the great Physician, and let our lives show forth Thy praise. Keep us humble; let the shadow of Thy cross fall across our daily pathway, so that in our public and social life we may gain the esteem of those with whom we

come in contact. Thou hast in Thy mercy permitted us to see the light of a new day; for Thy care over us during the darkness, for our rest and sleep and all our comforts, we thank Thee, O Lord. And now, during the activities of life, graciously bless us and direct us. Forget us not, even though, alas! we often forget Thee. At even may we return home and assemble round our family table in peace, satisfied that we have made some progress, not only in worldly matters, but also in the things that make for our eternal happiness. Graciously answer our prayer and bless all who are dear to us, for Thy Blessed Name's sake. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

ST. JOHN 4. 1-14.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptised more disciples than John,
2. (Though Jesus himself baptised not, but his disciples.)
3. He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.
4. And he must needs go through Samaria.
5. Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
6. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.
7. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.
8. (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)
9. Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.
10. Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.
11. The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?
12. Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?
13. Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:
14. But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Prayer

BLESSED MASTER, draw nigh to us, as we would draw nigh unto Thee. Not as the woman of Sychar at the well may we hold converse face to face, but through prayer we would humbly talk with Thee. Sinners we are in Thy Holy sight; how great, O Lord, Thou knowest. O be pleased to forgive us and to give unto us to drink of that water of life which Thou hast, so that we shall never thirst; may we have within us, when Thou be pleased to give us, a well of water, springing up into ever-

lasting life. Many are the blessings we enjoy this day that make our lives happy and joyful; for all these we humbly thank Thee; continue them unto us, we beseech Thee. Thou knowest our sorrows, our trials and our cares; suit Thy gifts to our respective needs, and give unto us praising hearts for all Thy loving-kindness. Surround our home with Thy constant care, by night and by day. Watch over us each one as we go out and as we come in; may our earthly future be prosperous; may our eternity be spent with Thyself. Forgive wherein we may have asked amiss: and now let us leave Thy presence with Thy joy and peace, blessed Saviour, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK.

ST. JOHN 4. 15-29.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

15. The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

16. Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come thither.

17. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:

18. For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.

19. The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

20. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

22. Ye worship ye know not what:

we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

23. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

25. The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

27. And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

28. The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,

29. Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou art a Spirit, and they that would truly worship Thee must worship Thee in Spirit and in Truth. Help us now so to do, and thus coming, may we find acceptance in Thy Holy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. We praise Thee for the gift of Thy beloved Son, the long-looked-for Messiah; for the record of His life as contained in Thy precious Word. As we read and study it, we are compelled to say, "Is not this the Christ, the Saviour of the world?" and falling down we

would worship Him as our crucified but risen and exalted Lord. For His sake pardon our sins, for His sake pour out upon us every needed blessing. We have come nearly to the end of another week; for the health we have enjoyed, for the mercies Thou hast given us, we thank Thee, O Lord; be with us through its closing hours, and when we fall asleep may there be in our hearts the assurance that the week has been a week of progress in temporal and spiritual concerns. O Lord, bless our home; bless us each one; bless any who may be absent; bless all who are near and dear to us, wherever they may be, and we ask all for Jesus' sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

PSALM 65.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 197

Scripture Selection

1. Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed.

2. O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

3. Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.

4. Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

5. By terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea:

6. Which by His strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power:

7. Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.

8. They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

9. Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

10. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.

11. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

12. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.

13. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

Prayer

AND when we are in Thine house, O Lord, enable us to make the words of the Psalmist our prayer of adoration and confession, and to say with heart and voice "Praise waiteth for Thee, O God, in Zion, and unto Thee shall the vow be performed." O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Iniquities prevail against us, but as for our transgressions Thou shalt purge them away. Blessed is the man whom Thou choosest and causest to approach unto Thee, that he may dwell in Thy house; may

we be satisfied with the goodness of Thy house this day, even of Thy holy temple. And in all the doings of this Sabbath, O Lord, direct us, and be in our home when we meet as a family. Be with us each one, whether young or old, and let Thy Holy Word to which we listen, and upon which we study and meditate, be profitable and comforting to us. And as the holy hours slip quickly past, may they leave a holy fragrance upon us and upon our home; may we grow liker to, and be drawn nearer to, Jesus Christ than ever before. When night comes, and once more we pitch our moving tents, may it be with the glad assurance that we are a day's march nearer home. Hear our prayer at this time and pardon our many sins, O Lord, we ask only for Jesus' sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 11. 20-30.

Monday

Scripture Selection

20. Then began he to upraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:

21. Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

22. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

23. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

24. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

25. At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

26. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

27. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

28. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Prayer

GRACIOUS AND HEAVENLY FATHER, on the threshold of this new week we come before Thee with praise and thanksgiving. We thank Thee for Thy care over us while we slept, and for permitting us to resume our daily duties. Lord, we ask for Thy rich blessing upon our work, wherever it may be this day: at home, at school, in the office or factory. May we be faithful to every trust; may we be conscientious in the performance of every task; guide us when perplexed; help us when weak; save

us when tempted and ready to fall. And when the troubles of life come, Lord Jesus, may Thine own invitation ring in our hearts and be a comfort to our souls. Enable us to accept it and to take Thee at Thy word, "Come unto Me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest; take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Forgive, we humbly ask, our many sins; let us not forget the privileges of the Sabbath just past. May its holy influences cling to us, and purify and ennoble our lives. Keep likewise in Thy Holy care all dear to us. Comfort any who may be in trouble; let us meet again on earth if it so please Thee, and if otherwise, then, Lord, may we all meet in Thy Heavenly Kingdom, to go no more out for ever and ever. For Christ's sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

JONAH 1.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

2. Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

3. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

4. But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

5. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

6. So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

7. And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

8. Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

9. And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

10. Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

11. Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

12. And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

13. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.

14. Wherefore they cried unto the Lord, and said, We beseech thee, O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for

thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee.

15. So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

16. Then the men feared the Lord

exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows.

17. Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Prayer

O GOD OF HEAVEN, Thou who hast made the sea and the dry land by the word of Thy power, hear us when we call upon Thee in prayer. Thou art a God of justice, but, blessed be Thy holy name, likewise of great compassion and tender mercy, towards all who seek Thee with an humble and contrite heart. May we delight in doing Thy holy will; may we fear to disobey Thee. May the experiences of Thy servant Jonah, who wilfully refused to obey Thee and to go where Thou wouldst send him, be a solemn warning to us, lest we in our foolishness and stubbornness refuse to obey Thy word of command, and thereby incur Thy wrath and punishment. Pardon, in Jesus' name we humbly ask, all our sins, and let the smile of Thy favour rest upon us for His sake. We pray for care and guidance during the hours of this new day; prosper us as Thou seest best; keep us from becoming discontented with our lot: and yet, O Lord, may we have such ambition that rightly we shall be able by Thy blessing to make our lives more and more of a success in temporal as well as in spiritual concerns. Let Thy presence ever abide in our home; guard it, good Lord, by night and by day, and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

JONAH 2.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly.

2. I said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; and out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

3. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

4. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.

5. The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head.

6. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains: the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God.

7. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

8. They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

9. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord.

10. And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

Prayer

O THOU, who art the hearer and answerer of prayer, who didst hear the cry of the prophet from his strange altar in the belly of the great fish, and didst deliver him, Lord, we would call upon Thee. Unworthy we are to take Thy Holy Name into our lips; sin has left many stains upon us, even though we may not have openly and deliberately disobeyed Thy commands. Forgive us, we earnestly pray, for Christ's sake, and restore us once more into Thy grace and favour. Let us not then forget our obligations to Thee; may we truly say with the rescued prophet, "I will sacrifice unto Thee with the voice of thanksgiving, I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." Especially we seek Thy blessing and guidance throughout this day. Life's road is too difficult, life's problems are too great for us alone; come to our aid, gracious Father, and direct and strengthen us; comfort us with Thy promises; assure us Thou art near us, and so we shall fear no evil. Lord, bless our home; may peace and joy ever reign in it, and may Thy Holy Name ever be praised and honoured therein. And we pray for all dear to us likewise; bless them with us abundantly, O Lord. We ask it only for Jesus' sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

JONAH 3.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying.
2. Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.
3. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.
4. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.
5. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.
6. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.
7. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing; let them not feed, nor drink water:
8. But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God; yea, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.
9. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?
10. And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

Prayer

GRACIOUS God, we thank and praise Thee that Thou art willing to make use of us, even us, as instruments to carry on Thy work in the world. Weak, erring mortals we are at the best, but, notwithstanding our failures, even our deliberate sins, Thou dost bear with our many infirmities, and art willing to try us again and again, in the hope and confidence that our lives shall be won for Thy service, and that from our lips shall proceed the glorious message of pardon and everlasting life to all men, if they will only repent and turn from their sinful ways. Lord, be pleased to use us more and more in Thy service; stand by us in the work; own and bless our labours, and, for any results achieved, any souls saved, any lives won to Thy service, we shall give Thee all the praise and all the glory. For the blessings and mercies this day has brought us, we thank Thee, O Lord; let them be ours during it all. May there come to us ever Thy tender care; especially when the night comes, and we fall asleep. Light and darkness are alike to Thee—for the night to Thee shineth even as the day. Hear this our prayer, and, as we linger in Thy presence, Lord, fill our hearts with Thy peace and love, for Christ's sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

JONAH 4.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

2. And he prayed unto the Lord, and said, I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarsish; for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

3. Therefore now, O Lord, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

4. Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry?

5. So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

6. And the Lord God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

7. But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

8. And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

9. And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

10. Then said the Lord, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

11. And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

Prayer

O God, Thou art a gracious God, merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness. Reverently and confidently we come to the footstool of Thy mercy seat, and lift up our hearts to Thee in prayer. Look on us not in anger, but fatherly, in compassion and forgiveness, for Jesus' sake. Make us strong in Thy strength, great with Thy gentleness, loving with Thy love; make us Thine for time and eternity, through the precious blood of Jesus Christ, shed for us on Calvary. On Him we believe, in Him we trust; we acknowledge Him as our Saviour and our Lord. May it be our daily desire to do Thy Holy will, and, thus engaged in Thy service on earth, through grace may we one day enter into the higher service of Heaven. We pray, O Lord, for our home; Thou hast blessed us greatly, temporally and spiritually, continue Thy goodness unto us. Give us fresh blessings this day, for Thou delightest to be gracious. When daylight ceases, and darkness covers us, let even that be light about us, because of Thy glorious presence. Be near any absent, on duty or pleasure; bring them home in peace and safety; or if their home is no longer this, but the setting up of a new family, Lord, very specially bless and prosper them, and all for Christ's sake. Amen.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK.

MATTHEW 20. 1-16.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.
2. And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
3. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace.
4. And said unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.
5. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.
6. And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and said unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?
7. They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.
8. So when even was come, the Lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.
9. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.
10. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.
11. And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house:
12. Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.
13. But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?
14. Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last even as unto thee.
15. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?
16. So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

Prayer

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, on this closing day of the week we draw nigh with grateful hearts to worship Thee. How swiftly the week has passed. How swiftly its sands have run out, and soon it will be gone for ever. For all Thy mercies, daily, hourly, bestowed upon us, we would truly thank and bless Thee. Forgive our many sins and transgressions, for Jesus' sake. Pardon us wherein we may have been slack in Thy service, or careless in our work for those whom we serve. Enable us to be more true, more loyal, more faithful, so that we may be accounted worthy at the last to enter into the joy of our Lord. Keep us during the closing hours of the day, and be with us in our joys and recreations. May we be not only happy ourselves, but endeavour to make others happy also. Take care of us, O Lord, during the night; comfort us when we fall asleep, and be pleased to awake us on Thy holy Sabbath, refreshed and rightly prepared to spend all its sacred hours. May the cares and anxieties of life be forgotten and pass from our thoughts as the week closes, and the first day, which is Thine, draws near. Lord, hear and answer us, only for Christ's sake. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

PSALM 90.

The Lord's Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 64

Scripture Selection

1. Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
2. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth, and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
3. Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.
4. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.
5. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep; in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.
6. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.
7. For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.
8. Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the sight of thy countenance.
9. For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.
10. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
11. Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.
12. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.
13. Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.
14. O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
15. Make us glad according to the days, wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.
16. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.
17. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Prayer

LORD, we would make the prayer of Moses, the man of God, our prayer on this Sabbath day. "Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God." We spend our years as a sigh, but, O God, "a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night"; Thou art eternally the same. Lord, teach us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. "O satisfy us early with Thy mercy. Make us glad according to the days wherein Thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children, and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us." May these blessings come in a rich measure unto us during this Holy day, which in Thy goodness Thou hast spared us to see. In the retirement of our homes, in the public services of Thy house, in our work for Thee, whether humble or prominent, O Lord, sanctify us and bless us. May this be for us and all our dear ones a pure and happy day—a foretaste of Heaven. Forgive us our sins, even those of our holy things, and abide with us at eventide. For Christ's sake. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 3. 5-15; 1 KINGS 4. 29-34.

Monday

Scripture Selection

5. In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6. And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7. And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between

good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

10. And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

12. Behold, I have done according to thy words; lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

13. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

14. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father

David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

18. And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

29. And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.

30. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

31. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Erahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all nations round about.

22. And he spake three thousand proverbs; and his songs were a thousand and five.

23. And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

34. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we thank Thee that Thou hast permitted us to begin again life's daily work. We are here on the threshold of this new week, and we come to thank Thee for Thy care over us during the night, and for Thy countless mercies continued unto us. Pardon graciously, for Christ's sake, our sins and our unworthiness. And now, O Lord, we ask Thee for wisdom as we enter once more upon our daily labours and duties. We are not able to discern truly between good and evil; our wills are so weak; our judgment is so faulty; our hearts are so fickle. Lord, give us wisdom and largeness of heart, and prosper us as seemeth to Thee best of earthly riches; but, above all, give unto us the higher, purer blessings of Thy Holy Spirit. Let Thy presence be with us during the day and in the night watches. May we not fear to live in Thy sight, only lest we sin. Inspire us with holy thoughts, to think and say and do that which pleaseth Thee. May we truly live the Christian life to Thine honour and glory. O Lord, bless all whom we love; comfort any in sorrow or trouble. Hear this our prayer in Heaven, Thy dwelling place, for we offer it only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 17. 1-16.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

2. And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

3. Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

4. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

5. So he went and did according

unto the word of the Lord: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

6. And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

7. And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

8. And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

9. Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which *belongeth* to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

10. So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring

me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12. And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

14. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

15. And she went, and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, the God who instructed and fed Elijah, the prophet, so marvellously long centuries ago, we lift our hearts now to Thee in prayer. Thou art the prayer-hearing and the prayer-answering God. Often we have cried unto Thee, O God, and Thou hast heard, and Thou hast answered us; blessed be Thy Holy Name. Thou knowest our wants and our necessities, Thou knowest our anxieties and our cares, our difficulties and trials; Lord, suit Thy blessings to our respective needs, for Christ's sake. May our home be the continual object of Thy protection and love, by night as well as by day; bless and prosper us, O Lord. Give us grace to live to please Thee, and in our times of distress or temptations, come quickly, O God, to our relief; our trust and our hope are in Thee. Let the services and the privileges of the bygone Sabbath still influence us; may they be a comfort and inspiration to us, even when following our duties and occupations. In our quiet moments may we delight to think of Thee and of Thy love for us, through Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves and our interests to Thy Holy care now and ever, gracious Father. Keep us and them, O Lord, and pardon our sinfulness, for Jesus' sake alone. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 17. 17-24.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

17. And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

18. And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my son to remembrance, and to slay my son?

19. And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

20. And he cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

21. And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

22. And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

23. And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the loft, and brought him into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, As thou livest.

24. And the woman said to Elijah, Now in this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth.

Prayer

OUR LORD AND OUR GOD, blessed be Thy Holy Name that we are at liberty to approach into Thy Holy presence at all times, through the merit of our Redeemer, Thy well-beloved Son. Bid us welcome at this time, and graciously forgive our sins for His sake. Manifold are the blessings Thou hast given unto us this day; we truly thank Thee for them all. How unceasing has been Thy care; how great Thy goodness; how tender Thy compassion and sympathy. Thou art indeed not only our God, but also our Father in Heaven. Make us indeed Thy children by redemption, adoption and sanctification. Help us daily to die unto sin and live unto holiness. Soon this day shall have ended, its working hours shall be gone for ever; give unto us the desire and the strength to crowd them with service that shall be commendable to those for whom we labour, profitable for ourselves, and, above all, that shall be well pleasing in Thy Holy sight. The future is Thine, O Lord; may it have in store for us and all our dear ones many earthly blessings, and, through faith in Jesus Christ, life everlasting at Thy right hand, where there are joys and pleasures for evermore. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 18. 1-16.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto

Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth.

2. And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria.

3. And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly:

4. For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)

5. And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the land, unto all fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.

6. So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

7. And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah?

8. And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

9. And he said, What have I attained, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me?

10. As the Lord thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not.

11. And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

12. And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the Lord shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the Lord from my youth.

13. Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the Lord, how I hid an hundred men of the Lord's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

14. And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me.

15. And Elijah said, As the Lord of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him to day.

16. So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Prayer

"OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven." Hear us now, we beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake. Another day has almost gone for ever; quickly its hours and moments have slipped past; now it is eventide, and we soon will lay ourselves down to sleep. For Thy goodness unto us this day, O Father, we thank Thee. From dangers seen and unseen Thou hast preserved us; our wants and needs Thou hast generously supplied. Make us truly grateful for all Thy loving-kindness. Guard us through the night watches; give us sweet thoughts of Thyself and blessed visions of the future ere we fall asleep; may our slumbers be like those of a little child, calm and peaceful and happy. And when the day breaks, in the morning light, awaken us with glad hearts, and refreshed, invigorated minds and bodies, to begin again life's duties and labours. We pray likewise for all whom we love; in Thy goodness and mercy, Heavenly Father, visit them all. Now be pleased to hear and answer our evening prayer, for we offer it in the Name of Him who only is worthy, Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 18. 17-28.

Friday

Scripture Selection

17. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

18. And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.

19. Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

20. So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.

21. And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

22. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

23. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut

it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

24. And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

25. And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under.

26. And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

27. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

28. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

Prayer

GRACIOUS AND HEAVENLY FATHER, unworthy we are to come into Thy Holy presence; sin has marred, has stained our lives oftentimes. We pray that Thou wilt, for Christ's sake, pardon our guilt, and cleanse our stains, so that we may be pure and clean in Thy Holy sight. May we hunger and thirst after righteousness; may our desire and our aim ever be to live well pleasing to Thee, O Lord, "Thou who art of purer eyes by far than to behold iniquity." Cheer us, O Lord, in our Christian life, and let us not lose heart because we seem to grow so slowly and make so little progress. Give unto us more and more the indwelling power of Thy Holy Spirit; may He lead us into the way of all truth, and reveal unto us the deep things of God. Lord, bless us during this new day; provide for our returning wants from Thy bountiful store. Guide and help us when worried and perplexed; comfort us when troubled and tried; save us when

tempted to sin, O Lord, for Jesus' sake. Through the coming night keep us in peace and in safety; may the darkness have no alarms for us. Now, O Lord, hear and answer us as Thou seest best, and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

NINETEENTH WEEK.

1 KINGS 18. 29-40.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

29. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

30. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:

32. And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

33. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

34. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

36. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

37. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

40. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, on this closing day of another week we are come to worship Thee; accept of us, for Christ's sake, as we draw nigh unto Thy Holy presence. With truly grateful hearts we approach Thee, for Thou hast showered upon us countless blessings and mercies. "What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits?" We would come with contrite hearts also, for we have sinned oftentimes against Thee during the week, and even, alas, during this day; Lord, forgive us, we humbly implore, for Jesus' sake. And now help us during the hours that remain of this week. Let the smile of Thy favour

and of Thy love rest upon us, whether we are occupied at our own work or are engaged in pleasure and recreation. At even bring us all home in safety; at night, when we lay ourselves down to rest, good Lord, watch over us with Thy loving care. May our sleep prepare us both in mind and body for rightly spending the coming Sabbath; may we hail its approach with joy, as a day of sweet calm and of holy service. And now, O Lord Jesus, bless us each one; may our home be to Thee even as Bethany was when Thou wert upon earth. Thou art ever welcome, blessed Saviour, come into our midst for Thine own Name's sake, we pray Thee. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

MICAH 4. 1-10.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 288

Scripture Selection

1. But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

2. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

4. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.

5. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we

will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

6. In that day, saith the Lord, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

7. And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the Lord shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

8. And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

9. Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

10. Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the Lord shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

Prayer

O LORD, we praise and bless Thy Holy Name for this Sabbath day. Safely through another week Thou hast brought us. For Thy loving-kindness we desire to thank Thee. Let this day have rich blessings in store for us. Free us from the cares and

pleasures of common life, and bring us into sweet and hallowed communion with Thyself, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let Thy Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts. May He take of the things which are Thine and reveal them unto us. In our public and private exercises of Thy worship, Lord, be pleased to bless us. May our service for Thee be glad, be earnest, be faithful. In our home may there be a holy atmosphere of peace and calm and love. May there come into our thoughts much of Heaven, much of Thyself, and when the day closes and we seek our rest, may we delight to meditate upon Thee in the night watches. May our last thoughts be of Thee, and of the eternal Sabbath of rest above. Bless the preaching of Thy glorious gospel everywhere this day; may a great multitude be gathered into Thy Kingdom. Remember, we would specially ask, all who are dear to us; give them likewise a Sabbath's blessing, O Lord. If any are troubled, comfort them by Thy grace, and bring them out into a large place of joy and peace in Thee. Hear us now, O Lord, and abundantly answer us as Thou seest best. Forgive our many sins and accept of us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

PROVERBS 20. 1-15.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.
2. The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: *whoso* provoketh him to anger sinneth *against* his own soul.
3. It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.
4. The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; *therefore* shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.
5. Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.
6. Most men will proclaim every one of his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?
7. The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.
8. A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.
9. Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?
10. Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the Lord.
11. Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.
12. The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them.
13. Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.
14. It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.
15. There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

Prayer

Down from the mountain top of communion and privilege we have come once more, O Lord, to take up again life's daily duties and labours. Let us not forget the Sabbath just gone; may our lives be deeply impressed by its solemn and holy exercises of

worship. May we with new zeal and fervour, and with fresh consecration, work the works Thou dost give us to do. Direct us by Thy Holy Spirit; may He inspire us ever, so that we may do only those things which are well pleasing in Thy Holy sight. Come into our home, blessed Saviour, and abide with us. Cheer and gladden our hearts with a sense of Thy nearness to us, and of Thy constant sympathy with us in our efforts and struggles, in our trials and sorrows. Let them not be too many for us, may we be buoyant and hopeful, for Thou hast promised never to leave or forsake us. Lord, bless our home, we earnestly pray. By day and by night guard and keep us in Thy loving care, as Thou only canst, and likewise the homes in which we have a peculiar interest. May our friends be Thine also, and may we all so live here that we shall finally through grace dwell with Thyself for ever and ever. Blot out our many sins, O Lord, and graciously accept of us now, and answer our prayer, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

PROVERBS 20. 16-30.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

16. Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

17. Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

18. Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.

19. He that goeth about as a tale-bearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

20. Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.

21. An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.

22. Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the Lord, and he shall save thee.

23. Divers weights are an abom-

ination unto the Lord; and a false balance is not good.

24. Men's goings are of the Lord; how can a man then understand his own way?

25. It is a snare to the man who devoureth that which is holy, and after vows to make enquiry.

26. A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them.

27. The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

28. Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.

29. The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head.

30. The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

Prayer

O LORD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we worship and adore Thy great and Holy Name. We rejoice that we have been taught to know Thee as our Creator, Redeemer and Friend. Thou hast condescended to call us Thy children, to adopt us into Thy family, for Christ's sake. We confess, O Lord, we have oftentimes been

wayward and disobedient, we have grieved and offended Thee, but Thou hast not dealt with us in anger, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For Thy mercy and long-suffering we thank Thee and praise Thee. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, and enable us to live more and more in accordance with Thy Holy mind and will. For Thy goodness unto us this day, we humbly thank Thee. Thou hast guided us, Thou hast guarded us as the hours have slipped past. We would not be without care; and when we in our foolishness would seek to wander, let not our weak wills control us, O Lord, but wilt Thou overpower us with Thy mighty strength, with Thy tender love, and keep us ever in the paths of righteousness and holiness and truth. Watch over us during the night; protect our home from every danger; preserve our lives, and awake us in the morning renewed for the work of another day. And we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

PSALM 145.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.
2. Every day will I bless thee: and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.
3. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.
4. One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.
5. I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.
6. And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.
7. They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.
8. The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.
9. The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.
10. All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee.
11. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;
12. To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.
13. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.
14. The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.
15. The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.
16. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
17. The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.
18. The Lord is high unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.
19. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.
20. The Lord preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.
21. My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Prayer

WE will extol Thee, O God our King, and we will bless Thy holy name for ever and ever. Every day will we bless Thee, and praise Thy name, for Thou art great and greatly to be praised; Thy greatness is unsearchable. Thou art likewise gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great mercy. Thou art good to all, and Thy tender mercies are over all Thy works. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. Thou upholdest all them that fall, and raisest up all them that be bowed down. The eyes of all wait upon Thee, and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou art righteous in all Thy ways and holy in all Thy works. Thou art nigh unto all them that call upon Thee, to all that call upon Thee in truth. Thou wilt fulfil the desire of all them that fear Thee. Thou wilt hear their cry and save them. Thou preservest all them that love Thee. Our mouth shall speak Thy praise, and bless Thy holy name for ever and ever. Graciously hear and forgive us at this time, when we are gathered together to worship Thee, around our family altar. For Thy goodness continued unto us we thank Thee, O Lord. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

1 CORINTHIANS 3.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

3. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

4. For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

5. Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

6. I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase.

7. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

10. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

11. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13. Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14. If any man's work abide

which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

16. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

17. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

18. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

19. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

20. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

21. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;

22. Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

23. And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, in whose hand our breath is, and who art intimately acquainted with all our ways, we worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. Let the solemn words we have just read be blessed unto our souls. Lord, give us grace to take care how we build. May the foundation of our spiritual life only be Jesus. Forbid, O Lord, that we should content ourselves with a structure of gold, silver and precious stones, for the day is coming which shall try every man's work, of what sort it is. May we, by Thy grace, be temples of God; may Thy Holy Spirit dwell within us. Forbid that we should in any wise defile our temple, even our body, lest in Thine anger Thou shouldst destroy us. Let us rejoice in the riches of Thy mercy and love, for Thou hast assured us, saying, "All things are yours, whether the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come, all are yours, and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's." Help us, we beseech Thee, to reach these glorious altitudes of the Christian life. Accept our thanks for the blessings of this day; O Lord, keep us through it all; gladden our home with Thy presence; guard us through the coming night, and forgive us all our sins, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

PSALM 97.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad *thereof*.

2. Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.

3. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.

4. His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.

5. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

7. Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

8. Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O Lord.

9. For thou, Lord, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

10. Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

11. Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

12. Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Prayer

AMID all the turmoils and commotions of earth, we rejoice to know and believe the Lord reigneth. Clouds and darkness are round about Thee, O God; righteousness and judgment are the habitation of Thy Throne. The hills melt like wax at Thy presence, Thou who art the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare Thy righteousness, and the people see Thy glory. Thou art high, O Lord, above all the earth; Thou art exalted far above all gods. Thou dost preserve the souls of Thy saints, and Thou dost deliver them out of the hand of the wicked. Lightness is sown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart, and so, O Lord, we will rejoice in Thee, and we will give thanks at the remembrance of Thy holiness. May our home be glad, with the smile of Thy favour ever resting upon it, and may our daily work be crowned with Thy blessing. In all our affairs guide and counsel us, be near us when the clouds of sorrow and trial gather; comfort us then with the promises of Thy love. We humbly acknowledge our sins; forgive us for Jesus' sake. We pray for Thy rich blessing on those dear to us. And Thine shall be the Kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTIETH WEEK.

ISAIAH 35.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

2. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.

3. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

4. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with

vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

5. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

7. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

8. And an highway shall be

there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

9. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon,

it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk *there*:

10. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Prayer

GRACIOUS God, ere the week closes over us for ever, we would come into Thy Holy presence to thank Thee for all Thy goodness and mercies towards us. Many have met with accidents; many are laid on beds of sickness and suffering; many have been called hence. Thou hast not been pleased so to deal with us; Thou hast spared our lives, and continued unto us a large measure of health and strength, and still surrounded us with our accustomed mercies. We praise and magnify Thy Holy Name for all Thy loving-kindness. Pardon, O Lord, our many sins, for Jesus' sake. May this week close over us in peace; may we fear no evil when night comes; may our rest be sweet and unbroken, a fitting preparation for rightly spending and enjoying the coming Sabbath; may it speak to us of the everlasting Sabbath with Thyself, when "the ransomed of the Lord shall come to Zion with songs, and everlasting joy upon their heads, when they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." And now may grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, rest upon us, and upon our home, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

PSALM 116.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 337

Scripture Selection

1. I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.

2. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

3. The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

4. Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

5. Gracious *is* the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God *is* merciful.

6. The Lord preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.

7. Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.

8. For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

9. I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

10. I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:

11. I said in my haste, All men are liars.

12. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?

13. I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord.

14. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people.

15. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

16. O Lord, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.

17. I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord.

18. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people.

19. In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the Lord.

Prayer

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, we draw near to Thee now in the privilege of prayer. We thank Thee for the rest and the gladness, the joy and peace, of the Christian Sabbath. Let its holy atmosphere of calm ever be in our hearts and in our home. Truly Thou hast been good to us, in bestowing upon us the riches of Thy grace. Gracious is the Lord, and righteous, yea, our God is merciful. Thou hast dealt bountifully with us, for Thou, Lord, hast delivered our soul from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from falling. We will walk before the Lord in the land of the living. We will offer unto Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving; we will pay our vows now unto the Lord in the presence of all His people; "in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem." May this day speak to us of another Sabbath, that Sabbath of eternal rest and service, in the city which hath no temple, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it; which hath "no need of the sun, neither of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the Light thereof." Fill our hearts with holy, heavenly thoughts this day. Let it not be spent in idleness, but in sweet communion and holy service. Abide with us when night draws nigh, and let the day fade away in the sweet assurance that we are a day's march nearer Heaven, our eternal Home. Richly bless the preaching of Thy gospel in our town, in our land, and throughout the world to-day. Tenderly visit all dear to us, especially any who may be absent from our home. Lord, keep us all near to Thyself. Forgive our sins, even those of our sacred things, and all only for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

MATTHEW 26. 1-16.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples,

2. Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.

3. Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,

4. And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him.

5. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.

6. Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,

7. There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

8. But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

9. For the ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

10. When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

11. For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.

12. For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial.

13. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

14. Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,

15. And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

16. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.

Prayer

BLESSED SAVIOUR, in Thy Holy Name we draw near to worship; Thou hast never turned any away; even those degraded by sin were received by Thee, and sent away with pardon and in peace. Our lives may not have been openly sinful or shameful, but, O Lord, we are sinners nevertheless; forgive us for Thy mercy's sake. We thank Thee we have been permitted to resume the work of another week; during the bygone night Thou hast tenderly watched over us, and refreshed us with sleep. Be with us during all this day; let us not forget the influences and the privileges of the past Sabbath. May our lives be happier and holier because of them all. Strengthen us with Thy strength; guide us with Thy wisdom; watch over us with Thy tender love; make our home Thy dwelling place, and may our bodies be temples of the Holy Ghost. Bless, we pray Thee, all who are related to us by ties of kinship and friendship; be gracious to them and do them good. Be near to any in trouble; sustain and comfort them. May we all be walking on the narrow way that leadeth to that better country, even an heavenly. Now, O Father, we leave ourselves in Thy keeping. Soon this day will be gone and night shall have come; let it have no fears for us, because Thy care surrounds us, and Thy promises cheer us. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

MATTHEW 26. 17-35.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

17. Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?

18. And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.

19. And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.

20. Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.

21. And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

22. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?

23. And he answered and said, He that dipperth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.

24. The Son of man goeth, as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It had been good for that man if he had not been born.

25. Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

26. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

27. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28. For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

29. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

30. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

31. Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.

32. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

33. Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.

34. Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

35. Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND GRACIOUS GOD, we praise Thee for Thine unspeakable gift unto us, of Thy well-beloved Son. Blessed Saviour, we thank Thee that Thou didst come to our earth, this sin-cursed world, in order that by Thy life, death and glorious resurrection, Thou mightest deliver it from the dominion and bondage of Satan. We thank Thee for the simple but beautiful memorial of Thy death, which Thou didst institute, and command those who truly love Thee to keep and observe, until Thy coming again. And as we from time to time reach a communion season, may we never neglect the opportunity to show forth our faith and love and loyalty to Thee; may it be our joy and our privilege to partake of the holy elements of bread and wine, and thus show forth our Lord's death until He come. Lord, keep us humble, keep us faithful and true; O forbid that we should ever be guilty of denying Thee, either publicly or privately. Lord, help us, sustain us by Thy grace. For the temporal blessings of this new day we thank Thee; be with us through all its hours of work and leisure; especially guard us when night comes and we retire to rest. Renew us with sleep, and awaken us in the morning pure and sinless, to begin again another day. Pardon the sins of this day, and bless us now, kneeling at Thy mercy seat, as Thou seest we need. In Jesus' Name we ask all. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

MATTHEW 26. 36-56.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

36. Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

37. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

38. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

39. And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

40. And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

41. Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

42. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

43. And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.

44. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

45. Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

47. And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people.

48. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whosoever that I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.

49. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him.

50. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

51. And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear.

52. Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

53. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

54. But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?

55. In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.

56. But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, we can never fully fathom the depths of Thine agony in the garden of Gethsemane, after the midnight hour, when Thy disciples were asleep; but we thank and praise Thee that Thou didst drink the cup of humiliation and suffering to the dregs for us. The debt due for sin Thou didst fully discharge; freely and lovingly Thou didst give Thyself into cruel hands, to suffer and die upon the cross, betrayed into their power by the kiss of one who had professed allegiance to Thee, even one of Thy disciples. Let the story—the tragedy of it all—have a

living meaning for us now. It was our Saviour, our Lord, who was thus betrayed, and led away to be crucified. May our interest be a personal interest, for it was for us He was betrayed and agonised and died. And now Thou art exalted, glorified by the Father's side, blessed Saviour, ever interceding for us. Be merciful unto us at this time; forgive our sins, O God, as we appear before Thee, for Jesus' sake, and fill our hearts with pardon and love and peace. Abide ever in our home, dear Saviour; surround us always with Thy care, and prosper us in our daily tasks as Thou seest best. Likewise bless and keep all dear to us. May our Saviour be their Saviour too, and, when life's separations are all over, may we all dwell for ever in Thy presence, and serve Thee in the Jerusalem above. For Thine own Name's sake we ask it. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

MATTHEW 26. 57-75.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

57. And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled.

58. But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end.

59. Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;

60. But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses,

61. And said, This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

62. And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?

63. But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.

64. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

65. Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.

66. What think ye? They answered and said, He is guilty of death.

67. Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands.

68. Saying, Prophecy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?

69. Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee.

70. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.

71. And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth.

72. And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man.

73. And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also are one of them; for thy speech betrayeth thee.

74. Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.

75. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crew, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

Prayer

BLESSED JESUS, Thou art the Son of man and the eternal Son of God; two natures in One Person, blessed for ever. O forbid that we should ever be so base and sinful as to disown or deny Thee. Thou hast done so much for us, enduring the abuse and the revilings and insults upon Thy Sacred Person in silence, when Thou wert reviled Thou reviledst not again, but in love, in meekness and in majesty bore it all for our sakes. Help us to bear for Thee; may we be in word and in deed worthy followers of Thine, counting it our joy, our privilege, our honour, to walk in the steps of Thy sacred feet. Blessed Master and Lord, come near to us now in our worship; draw us close to Thyself; drive away our doubts and our fears; forgive our shortcomings and failures, and fill our hearts with Thy love and joy. Help us throughout this new day faithfully and truly to serve Thee; may success in a large measure crown our efforts. May no evil befall us as we go out, and as we come in. Give us the desire to be a blessing unto others; keep us from all selfishness; make us noble, and large, and generous in our Christian character; may our lives be a reflection, a miniature of Thine own. Lord, save us from weeping bitter tears of sorrow; give us wisdom to heed Thy solemn words of warning ere it be too late. Answer us now as Thou seest best, for Thy mercy's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

MATTHEW 27. 27-50.

Friday

Scripture Selection.

27. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers.

28. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

29. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!

30. And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.

31. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him.

32. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross.

33. And when they were come

unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull.

34. They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

35. And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

36. And sitting down they watched him there;

37. And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

38. Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.

39. And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads.

40. And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If

thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.

41. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

42. He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

43. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

44. The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

45. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

46. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

47. Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias.

48. And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.

49. The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.

50. Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

Prayer

OUR BLESSED LORD AND REDEEMER, in spirit we would gather round Thy cross, and gaze upon Thee hanging there, enduring its untold agonies and its cruel shame for our sins. In Thy precious blood all our sins are taken away, and we are washed and made clean, yea, whiter even than the snow. We adore Thee, dear Saviour, that Thou didst not save Thyself; in order that Thou mightest save us, Thou didst drink the cup of suffering to the dregs, and not alone for us, but for a lost and wicked world; Oh, we rejoice that the work is ended. "It is finished," and all who will may have everlasting life. We praise Thee for this wonderful gospel of grace and mercy and salvation which Thou hast provided; may we believe and trust it, and count it our delight and privilege, to seek to bring its blessings to others. Our home is what it is because of the Cross; from it there stream love and joy and peace for this life; and it illuminates the future for us, with the promise of eternal life with Thyself. May we ever glory in the Cross; may its shadow ever fall across our pathway, until we receive the Crown of Life that fadeth not away. We pray for all whom we love; in every home may Thy presence be. And by and bye, in Thine own time and way, bring us all to dwell eternally with Thyself. And we will give Thee all the praise, and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

PSALM 16.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.

2. O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee;

3. But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.

4. Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another

god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.

5. The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

6. The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

7. I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

8. I have set the Lord always be-

fore me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

9. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

10. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

11. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, Thou art our God, and in Thee do we put our trust. "Truly the lines have fallen unto us in pleasant places, yea, ours is a goodly heritage"; we would bless the Lord, who hath given us counsel. We would set Thee always at our right hand, therefore we shall not be moved. Wilt Thou show us the path of life? In Thy presence, Thou hast told us, there is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. In this blessed comfort and assurance and hope may we live and labour each day, until faith and hope shall be lost in sight, and Thy promises shall be realized by us in the Kingdom above. Lord, bless us throughout this day; keep us during the closing hours of this week. For all we have enjoyed during each successive day we humbly thank Thee; pardon wherein we have, alas, so often been sinful and forgetful, wayward and disobedient. Spare us through the coming night, to see another day of holy rest. In the Sabbath morning awaken us with worshipping hearts, joyous and eager for Thy service. Fit us therefor by the indwelling of Thy Holy Spirit. Be gracious to all dear to us; bless them with every needed grace and comfort, and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

MATTHEW 28.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 581

Scripture Selection

1. In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

2. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.

4. And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

5. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

8. And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

9. And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10. Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

11. Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done.

12. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers,

13. Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept.

14. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.

15. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

16. Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17. And when they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted.

18. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Prayer

OUR LORD AND OUR REDEEMER, we worship Thee not as the dead, but as the living Christ. We worship Thee as the one who died for us, who rose again from the dead, and who is alive for evermore; whose blessed message is, "Because I live, ye shall live also." We rejoice in this Thy Sabbath, the day that commemorates Thy glorious resurrection. We are glad the tomb in the garden is empty, for Thou art not there. Thou art risen victorious o'er death and hell, Saviour triumphant! All hail to our risen, conquering Lord! May we, each one of us, experience the meaning of Thy crucifixion, of Thy resurrection, and of Thy exaltation. Be our Saviour and Friend for time and for eternity. May this Sabbath be laden with rich blessings for our home, for every member of it. May the services of Thine House be profitable unto us. Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for Thy worship, as the fashion of some is. May we do our duty as in Thy sight, and may our vision of Thee grow clearer and clearer, until at length we shall see Thee as Thou art, and know Thee, "even as also we are known." Bless Thy cause everywhere this day; may many step out of darkness into light, the light of God, through the proclamation of Thy truth. Bless all dear to us; bless the stranger within our gates. Let the Sabbath fade away in calm and peace and joy, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

PSALM 85.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.
2. Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.
3. Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned *thyself* from the fierceness of thine anger.
4. Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.
5. Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?
6. Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?
7. Shew us thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation.
8. I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.
9. Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.
10. Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.
11. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12. Yea, the Lord shall give *that which is good*; and our land shall yield her increase.
13. Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

Prayer

O LORD OUR GOD, be merciful unto us now when we approach Thy throne of grace in the Name of Jesus. Forgive our iniquity, and cover our sin. Be not angry with us for ever, but revive us again. Show us Thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us Thy salvation. Speak unto us Thy word of peace, and let us not turn again to folly. Thy salvation is nigh unto them that fear Thee, and Thou wilt give unto them that which is good. For the mercies bestowed upon us to-day we praise Thee, O Lord; grant to bless us during all the hours of this new week. Let the services, the rest and peace of the Sabbath, cheer us on our way. May we live nearer to Thee; may the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; may we be truly a special people unto Thyself. Help us to influence others for good; may there be a sweetness, a loveliness in our daily walk and conversation that shall win those with whom we come in contact, not only to ourselves, but for Christ. Soon the darkness will fall around us; protect us, O Lord, through it all, and awaken us in the new day refreshed and invigorated for its duties. We pray for our friends, our people wherever they may be; Lord, bless us all in temporal and spiritual concerns, and bring us when we have served Thee long enough on earth to be with Thyself, for ever and ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

PSALM 24.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

2. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

3. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

4. He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

5. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

6. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

7. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

8. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

9. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

10. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, the earth is Thine and the fulness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. Thou hast founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord, and who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully, he shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. May this be truly said of us, O God, for we would be of the generation of them that truly seek Thy face. Thus would we approach Thee at this time; be gracious unto us, O God, and bless us for Christ's sake. This new day has brought unto us from Thy loving hand fresh blessings and mercies. We accept these as tokens of Thy love for us, and we would gratefully thank Thee for them all. Continue unto us Thy goodness, and let not Thy care forsake us when night comes. Draw closer to us then, and shield us from all harm; and when our life's work is finished, Lord, grant unto us and unto all our dear ones an abundant welcome into Thy heavenly Kingdom, to praise Thee throughout eternity, Thou who art the Lord of Hosts, and the King of Glory for ever and ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

GENESIS 37. 1-17.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.

2. These are the generations of

Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the

some of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.

8. Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.

9. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

10. And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

11. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray thee, this dream which I have dreamed:

12. For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

13. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

14. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

10. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

11. And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

12. And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.

13. And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.

14. And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

15. And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou?

16. And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.

17. And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we thank Thee that our lot is cast in a Christian age, and in a Christian land. Countless are the privileges with which we are surrounded. Help us by Thy grace to be responsive to them, so that our lives may daily grow into the likeness of Thy beloved Son, the man Christ Jesus, who alone is the Saviour and Redeemer of men. For Thy wonderful love to us through Him we praise and glorify Thy Holy Name. Help us, O Lord, to live well-pleasing lives in Thy sight, doing the works which Thou wouldst have us do, living the life Thou dost desire us to live. Forgive our many failures, blot out our many sins, and give unto us now in Thy presence Thy peace and the assurance of Thy love, for Jesus' sake. May our home ever be guarded by Thee; may our lives, so frail and weak, ever be the objects of Thy tender care. Pity us when in our foolishness we go astray, Lord; turn away Thine anger from us, and restore us once more into Thy grace and favor. In our temporal affairs, in our daily duties, direct and prosper us; make us fit for the right discharge of them all, by blessing us with health of body

and soundness of mind. And in all we endeavor may we never forget our responsibility and duty to Thee. While we lay up "treasure on earth," O give us grace also to "lay up treasure in Heaven," against the day which is coming, which shall try every man's work of what sort it is. Graciously hear and answer this our prayer, for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

GENESIS 37. 18-36.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

18. And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

19. And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.

20. Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.

21. And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

22. And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

23. And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him;

24. And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

25. And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead, with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.

26. And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

27. Come, and let us sell him to

the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.

28. Then there passed by Midianites, merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

29. And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.

30. And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?

31. And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;

32. And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.

33. And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.

34. And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.

35. And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

36. And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, for the privilege of prayer we bless Thee; at Thy mercy seat freely we can make our wants and wishes known to Thee, and confess our sins and transgressions. Now, as we kneel before Thee, forgive us, O Lord, for Christ's

sake, and give unto us as Thou seest best the desires and longings of our hearts. Thou knowest our worries, our cares, our sorrows and trials; Lord, suit Thy blessings to our needs. No pain is too difficult for Thee to relieve, no trouble is too heavy for Thee to carry, no wound too deep for Thee to cure. Be merciful unto us as a family. May Thy Name ever be honoured by us above every other name; may Thy worship never be forgotten in public or in private. We are tempted, alas, O Lord, often to forget Thee, and we yield so easily. Have mercy upon our weakness, and give us grace and strength to be more true and faithful in the future than we have been in the days that are past. Help us to co-operate with Thee in working out the wonderful plan and purpose Thou hast in our lives. Thou wert with Thy servant Joseph from his boyhood, and didst lead and bless him. Be with us also, guide and bless our boys and girls; may the God of Joseph surely be their God also. Hear us in this our earnest prayer, protect us through this day and the coming night, and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, O Lord, now and ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

GENESIS 39. 1-9; 19-23.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither.

2. And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

3. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

4. And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

5. And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

6. And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favoured.

7. And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

8. But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

9. There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

19. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

20. And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.

21. But the Lord was with Joseph and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

11. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

12. The keeper of the prison looked not to any thing that was under his hand; because the Lord was with him, and that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper.

Prayer

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, we lift up our hearts as well as our voices to Thee in prayer; hear us, we beseech Thee, for Jesus' sake, for He alone is worthy. Many are the blessings we have received from Thy hands to-day. Thy care was not withdrawn from us during the night watches, and when we awakened this morning it was upon the land of the living, enjoying a large measure of health and strength, feeling renewed and refreshed by the sleep Thou gavest us, and finding none of our daily blessings withdrawn from us. We thank Thee, O Lord, for Thy great goodness; may the future have in store for us fresh mercies and even greater gifts from Thy loving Fatherly hand. Let not our frailties and sins hinder Thy favours from descending upon us; forgive them all for Jesus' sake, and let us rejoice and be glad in Thee, as the God of our salvation. And when temptation assails us along life's roadway come to our aid, blessed Saviour, Thou who wert Thyself tempted in all points even as we are, yet without our sin, and in Thy strength may we come off more than conquerors. Remember lovingly all who are dear to us; comfort any who may be in trouble or sorrow; guide any who may be perplexed and harassed, and in Thy great love wherewith Thou dost love us bring us all to be with Thyself, in that land where sorrow never enters, and death is forever shut out. For Thine own Name's sake, Lord Jesus, we ask all. Amen.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK.

GENESIS 40.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt.

2. And Pharaoh was wroth against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers.

3. And he put them in ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.

4. And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them and he served them: and they continued a season in ward.

5. And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream

in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, which were bound in the prison.

6. And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

7. And he asked Pharaoh's officers, that were with him in the ward of his lord's house, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly to-day?

8. And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me then, I pray you.

9. And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, In my dream, behold, a vine was before me;

10. And in the vine were three branches: and it was as though it budded, and her blossoms shot forth; and the clusters thereof brought forth ripe grapes:

11. And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand: and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.

12. And Joseph said unto him, This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days:

13. Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thine head, and restore thee unto thy place: and thou shalt deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when thou wast his butler.

14. But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house:

15. For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews: and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon.

16. When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said unto Joseph, I also was in my dream, and, behold, I had three white baskets on my head:

17. And in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of bake-meats for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head.

18. And Joseph answered and said, This is the interpretation thereof: The three baskets are three days:

19. Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee.

20. And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants: and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants.

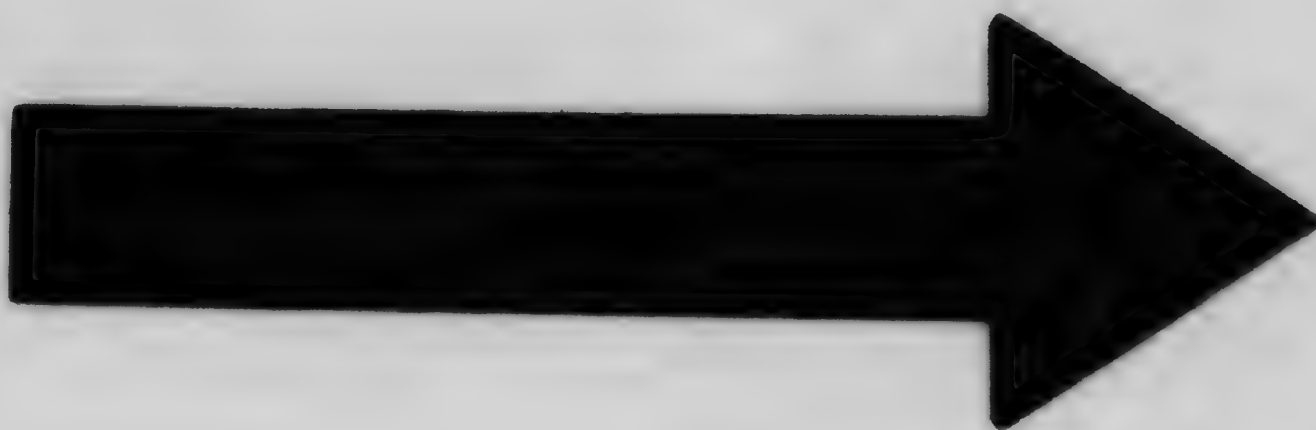
21. And he restored the chief butler unto his butlership again; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand:

22. But he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them.

23. Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him.

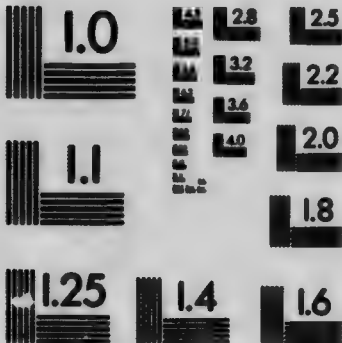
Prayer

LORD, ere this, another day and week, passes from us for ever, we come humbly into Thy Holy presence to worship Thee in the Name of Jesus. As we recall the days just gone, we readily see many tokens of Thy love unto us, and, alas! we see also how foolish, how weak and sinful we have been. Accept of our thanks for all Thy blessings, and graciously forgive wherein we have sinned against Thee. May the week leave us in some degree liker Christ, our great model and pattern; may it have brought us nearer to our eternal home. Be with us, O Lord, during the remaining hours of light or darkness, whether we work or play. Let the smile of Thy favour rest upon us; fill our hearts with Thy joy and peace. Bless us each one; whether parents or children, younger or older, may we all be one family in Christ Jesus; may our names be written in the Lamb's Book of Life. If any are absent, Lord, especially watch over them; may the lessons learned at home not be forgotten; may the memories of home ever be fragrant in our hearts. Prepare us for the coming Sabbath by a good night's rest. And we will give Thee all the praise, and all the glory, Father, Son and Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



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TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 41. 1-24.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 427

Scripture Selection

1. And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed, and, behold, he stood by the river.

2. And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fat-fleshed; and they fed in a meadow.

3. And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and lean-fleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river.

4. And the ill favoured and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke.

5. And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

6. And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

7. And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

8. And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

9. Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

10. Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

11. And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

12. And there was there with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to

us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

13. And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

14. Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

15. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.

16. And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

17. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

18. And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fat-fleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow:

19. And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness:

20. And the lean and the ill favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine:

21. And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill favoured, as at the beginning. So I awoke.

22. And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good:

23. And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them:

24. And the thin ears devoured the seven good ears: and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.

Prayer

We would approach into Thy presence now, O Lord, with sincere reverence and deep humility, for Thou alone art holy. Forgive us for Christ's sake all our iniquities, and fill our hearts

with peace and joy. We rejoice in this Sabbath day, which frees us for a little time of the duties and the cares of our common life, and makes us think of Thee, and of Thy dwelling place, our future home, by Thy mercy and love bestowed upon us in Christ. Let the atmosphere of Heaven surround us this day; let the savour of Thy Holy presence, blessed Master, be in our habitation. In the services of Thy sanctuary specially meet with and bless us. May Thy Word have a new and living meaning for us; may its truth sink into our hearts, and mould our lives into the likeness of Thine. Bless Thy Church Universal this day. In many tongues, in many lands, the glad message of salvation is being proclaimed. Lord, abundantly bless Thy work, both at home and abroad. We would remember those dear to us, of whom we lovingly think, and for whom we now earnestly pray. Draw near to us when the Sabbath's sun is set, and the day comes to an end. Lord Jesus, abide with us; it is not night if Thou art nigh. Refresh us with sleep; may our closing and waking thoughts be of Thee, dear Saviour. For Thine own Name's sake we ask all. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 41. 25-43.

Monday

Scripture Selection

25. And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do.

26. The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one.

27. And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

28. This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh.

29. Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

30. And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

31. And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

32. And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by

God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

33. Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.

34. Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years.

35. And let them gather all the food of those good years that come and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

36. And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.

37. And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

38. And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?

39. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

40. Thou shalt be over my house,

and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

41. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

42. And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon

Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck.

43. And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, again we would enjoy the privilege of prayer; a new day has come, and a new week's work has begun. We thank Thee that Thou hast spared us, and continued unto us our health and strength; Lord, guide and bless us in our daily walk, whether at home, in the busy marts of men, on the farm, at the school, or wherever duty calls us. Surround us with care, prosper us with that blessing of Thine which maketh rich, and with which no sorrow is added. Help us in our difficulties, guide us in our perplexities, and comfort us in our troubles. Let us not dread the future, but may we have courage and faith boldly to face it, trusting in Thee, for Thou art a very present help in time of need. Let us not forget the Sabbath just passed; may there linger with us much of its fragrance and sweetness and holiness. Be with us as Thou wert with Joseph long ago, and give us grace and strength to do that which is right, so that our lives may be blessed in temporal affairs, but especially in spiritual concerns. Now, Lord, be merciful unto us, when as a family we worship Thee, for we come asking only in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 42. 1-20.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another?

2. And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die.

3. And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.

4. But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not with his brethren; for he said, Lest peradventure mischief befall him.

5. And the sons of Israel came to buy corn among those that came: for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

6. And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.

7. And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them, and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food.

8. And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.

9. And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye are spies; to

see the nakedness of the land ye are come.

10. And they said unto him, Nay, my lord, but to buy food are thy servants come.

11. We are all one man's sons; we are true men, thy servants are no spies.

12. And he said unto them, Nay, but to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.

13. And they said, Thy servants are twelve brethren, and sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not.

14. And Joseph said unto them, That is it that I spake unto you, saying, Ye are spies:

15. Hereby ye shall be proved: By the life of Pharaoh ye shall not

go forth hence, except your youngest brother come hither.

16. Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and ye shall be kept in prison, that your words may be proved, whether there be any truth in you: or else, by the life of Pharaoh surely ye are spies.

17. And he put them all together into ward three days.

18. And Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God:

19. If ye be true men, let one of your brethren be bound in the house of your prison: so ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses:

20. But bring your youngest brother unto me; so shall your words be verified, and ye shall not die. And they did so.

Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, we worship and adore Thee, not only as our Creator, but as our Preserver and Redeemer. Thou dost supply our daily wants and needs. Thou hast provided for us an eternal refuge in Jesus Christ. With grateful hearts we own Thy past and present mercies: our pathway through life has been lavishly strewn with Thy gifts; for them all, we humbly and truly thank Thee, and our prayer now is that Thou wilt still remember us, and bestow on us even greater blessings in the days to come. Especially do we ask for a blessing now. Pardon the guilt Thou seest on us, O Lord, for Jesus' sake. Lord, remove the stain, the shame of it all, and fill our hearts with Thy peace. Enable us rightly to perform the day's work; give us soundness of body, clearness of intellect, and may we seek to please not alone those whom we serve, but especially Thee. If any special circumstance arises, Lord, give us grace and wisdom rightly to decide and to act. Let us ever realize that Thy presence is with us, and that Thou art very near to all them that call upon Thee; may we not forget to call. When the day's work is over, and the hours of darkness come, may our hearts be free from care, may our consciences reproach us not, and through the night, Lord, take care of us, for Thou only canst, and we ask all only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 42. 21-38.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

21. And they said one to another, We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us,

and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.

22. And Reuben answered them, saying, Spake I not unto you, say-

ing, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.

23. And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for he spake unto them by an interpreter.

24. And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.

25. Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them.

26. And they laded their asses with the corn, and departed thence.

27. And as one of them opened his sack, to give his ass provender in the inn, he espied his money; for, behold, it was in his sack's mouth.

28. And he said unto his brethren, My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack: and their heart failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God hath done unto us?

29. And they came unto Jacob their father unto the land of Canaan, and told him all that befell unto them; saying,

30. The man, who is the lord of the land, spake roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country.

31. And we said unto him, We are true men; we are no spies:

32. We be twelve brethren, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.

33. And the man, the lord of the country, said unto us, Hereby shall I know that ye are true men; leave one of your brethren here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone:

34. And bring your youngest brother unto me: then shall I know that ye are no spies, but that ye are true men: so will I deliver you your brother, and ye shall traffic in the land.

35. And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack: and when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid.

36. And Jacob their father said unto them, Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me.

37. And Reuben spake unto his father, saying, Slay my two sons, if I bring him not to thee: deliver him into my hand, and I will bring him to thee again.

38. And he said, My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone: if mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, having read a portion of Thy Holy Word, we now approach Thy mercy seat through prayer, in the Name of Jesus. We thank Thee for this great privilege, purchased through His precious Blood, whereby we may at all times have access to Thy Holy presence, and make our wants and wishes known to Thee. Our petition now is that Thou wilt graciously pardon our sins, and grant unto us a special blessing this day. We thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou hast safely brought us through the past night; we enjoyed our sleep; sickness and pain troubled us not, and we are permitted to engage upon the active duties of life; help us rightly to discharge them all. May we be true to every interest committed to our care, true to ourselves; above all, true to Thee. Bless our home, O Lord, abundantly; comfort the aged ones, those who may be infirm; may their hearts be strengthened by Thy promises; may

the future be looked forward to with joy and calm, and when the hour comes to enter the valley of the shadow may they fear no evil, for Thou art with them, and thus they shall not be afraid. We commit ourselves and our loved ones into Thy Almighty and Fatherly care. The Lord, watch over us when we are absent one from another, and bring us all home to be with Himself when our earthly journeyings are ended. For Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 43. 1-17.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And the famine was sore in the land.

2. And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, their father said unto them, Go again, buy us a little food.

3. And Judah spake unto him, saying, The man did solemnly protest unto us, saying, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.

4. If thou wilt send our brother with us, we will go down and buy thee food:

5. But if thou wilt not send him, we will not go down: for the man said unto us, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.

6. And Israel said, Wherefore dealt ye so ill with me, as to tell the man whether ye had yet a brother?

7. And they said, The man asked us straitly of our state, and of our kindred, saying, Is your father yet alive? have ye another brother? and we told him according to the tenor of these words: could we certainly know that he would say, Bring your brother down?

8. And Judah said unto Israel his father, Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go; that we may live, and not die, both we, and thou, and also our little ones.

9. I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him:

If I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever:

10. For except we had lingered, surely now we had returned this second time.

11. And their father Israel said unto them, If it must be so now, do this; take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds:

12. And take double money in your hand; and the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand; peradventure it was an oversight:

13. Take also your brother, and arise, go again unto the man:

14. And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. If I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.

15. And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.

16. And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, Bring these men home, and slay, and make ready; for these men shall dine with me at noon.

17. And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house.

Prayer

OUR GRACIOUS AND LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, ere this day passes for ever from us, we draw near to Thee in prayer. Forgive, we humbly entreat, the sins that have marred its fleeting

hours, for Jesus' sake. Give unto us the assurance, and the joy, and the peace, of sins pardoned. Accept our thanks for the many mercies we have received from Thy Fatherly hand; all have come from Thee, O Lord, for Thou art the giver of every good and perfect gift. Be pleased to continue unto us Thy loving kindness in the days to come, and as our needs grow greater likewise may Thy favours increase. Soon we shall seek the needful rest. When wrapt in sleep, let Thine eye that never slumbers nor sleeps be upon our home, be upon us each one. Sustain us through the night, for in Thee, O Lord, we live; and in the morning light summon us to begin life's work and labours, refreshed and fitted to do them. Thus may our lives grow not only in years, but in likeness to Christ's, and in preparation for that eternal life with Thyself, when our work here on earth is done. Be gracious to all whom we love; surround them likewise with Thy protecting care, love them with Thy divine love. And these mercies we ask, these petitions we offer in Jesus' Name, for He alone is worthy. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 44. 1-17.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth.

2. And put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his corn money. And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

3. As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their asses.

4. And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said unto his steward, Up, follow after the men; and when thou dost overtake them, say unto them, Wherefore have ye rewarded evil for good?

5. Is not this it in which my lord drinketh, and whereby indeed he divineth? ye have done evil in so doing.

6. And he overtook them, and he spake unto them these same words.

7. And they said unto him, Wherefore saith my lord these words? God forbid that thy servants should do according to this thing:

8. Behold, the money, which we found in our sack's mouth, we

brought again unto thee out of the land of Canaan: how then should we steal out of thy lord's house silver or gold?

9. With whomsoever of thy servants it be found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen.

10. And he said, Now also let it be according unto your words: he with whom it is found shall be my servant; and ye shall be blameless.

11. Then they speedily took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack.

12. And he searched, and began at the eldest, and left at the youngest: and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.

13. Then they rent their clothes, and laded every man his ass, and returned to the city.

14. And Judah and his brethren came to Joseph's house; for he was yet there: and they fell before him on the ground.

15. And Joseph said unto them, What deed is this that ye have done? wot ye not that such a man as I can certainly divine?

16. And Judah said, What shall we say unto my lord? what shall

we speak? or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants: behold, we are my lord's servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found.

17. And he said, God forbid that I should do so: but the man in whose hand the cup is found, he shall be my servant; and as for you, get you up in peace unto your father.

Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, Thou who hearest prayer, we call upon Thee in Jesus' Name; bow down to us Thy listening ear, and regard our supplications. Many are the sins Thou seest upon us; forgive us, we earnestly ask, for His sake. Many are the favours we have received from Thy hand; for all we truly thank and bless Thee. And now as we kneel at Thy throne of grace, Lord, give unto us a special blessing; we are poor and needy, but all fulness dwells with Thee; Lord, bestow upon us from Thy bountiful store, according as Thou seest right and best. There are desires and longings in our hearts; if these be in accordance with Thy Holy Will, gratify them, for Christ's sake, and, O Lord, if Thou seest best not so to do, help us meekly and trustfully to say, "Thy will, not ours, be done." Direct us in the concerns of this day; in its difficulties and perplexities instruct us, and when temptations beset us, Lord, deliver us from evil. Bless us each one, young or old, write all our names in the Lamb's Book of Life, and gather us, and all dear to us, at the end of life's journey, home to be with Thyself. Hear us in our prayer, and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for evermore. Amen.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK.

GENESIS 44. 18-34.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

18. When Judah came near unto Joseph, he said, Oh my lord, let thy servant speak a word unto thy lord's ears, and let not thine anger be kindled against thy servant: for I am even as Pharaoh.

19. My lord asked his servants, saying, Have ye a father, or a brother?

20. And we said unto my lord, We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loveth him.

21. And thou saidst unto thy servants, Bring him down unto me, that I may set mine eyes upon him.

22. And we said unto my lord, The lad cannot leave his father: for if he should leave his father, his father would die.

23. And thou saidst unto thy servants, Except your youngest brother come down with you, ye shall see my face no more.

24. And it came to pass when we came up unto thy servant my father, we told him the words of my lord.

25. And our father said, Go again, and buy us a little food.

26. And we said, We cannot go down: if our youngest brother be with us, then will we go down: for we may not see the man's face, except our youngest brother be with us.

27. And thy servant my father said unto us, Ye know that my wife bare me two sons:

28. And the one went out from me, and I said, Surely he is torn in pieces; and I saw him not since:

29. And if ye take this also from me, and mischief befall him, ye shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

30. Now therefore when I come to thy servant my father, and the lad be not with us; seeing that his life is bound up in the lad's life;

31. It shall come to pass, when he seeth that the lad is not with us, that he will die: and thy servants shall bring down the gray hairs of thy servant our father with sorrow to the grave.

32. For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying, If I bring him not unto thee, then I shall bear the blame to my father for ever.

33. Now therefore, I pray thee, let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.

34. For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me? lest peradventure I see the evil that shall come on my father.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we have in Thy tender mercy toward us come very near to the end of another week; soon it shall be for ever in the past. We feel that it is meet and becoming that we should approach into Thy Holy presence to thank Thee for the many mercies Thou hast bestowed upon us during each succeeding day. Lord, Thou hast indeed been kind and good to us, and we desire truly to praise and bless Thy Holy Name. Forgive our great unworthiness; how often we have sinned, Thou alone knowest. O Lord, for Christ's sake, blot out our black record, and let us rejoice and be glad in the sense of Thy pardoning mercy and love. We pray for Thy care and guidance during all the hours of this day. When night comes and we retire to rest, Lord, comfort us, and let a new Sabbath day dawn upon us in peace and in quietness. May it have in store for us not only our accustomed privileges, but may there be a special blessing given unto us from Thy loving hand. Lord, bless any dear to us absent for a season; guard them wherever they may be, and bring them home in peace and in safety at the appointed time. Bless those bound to us by ties of kinship and of friendship; unite us all by faith to Jesus Christ. And we ask all only for His Name, and for His sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

PSALM 26.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 418

Scripture Selection

1. Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the Lord; therefore I shall not slide.

2. Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.

3. For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.

4. I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.

5. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.

6. I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O Lord:

7. That I may publish with the

voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

8. Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

9. Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

10. In whose hands is mischief,

and their right hand is full of bribes.

11. But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

12. My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the Lord.

Prayer

O LORD GOD OF THE SABBATH, on this day of rest and gladness, of joy and light, we have assembled ourselves as a family for worship. Be pleased to accept of our homage, for Jesus' sake. For the many privileges we enjoy we truly thank Thee. Let this be for us the Lord's day, may we delight to spend it for Thee and in Thy service. May we truly say with Thy servant David, "Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth; in the congregations will I bless the Lord." May the services of the sanctuary indeed be blessed to our souls. Draw us near to Thee, our Father, and comfort us with the assurance of pardon for our sins, and of Thy love bestowed upon us for Jesus' sake. May our home, as well as Thy House, be fragrant with Thy blessings. Blessed Saviour, may we give Thee the chief place in our thoughts to-day. Help us to forget our ordinary life, with its anxieties, its problems, its pleasures; let our thoughts be of Thee, and of the joy and service of our future home. We pray for any of our number detained from Thy House by reason of illness or indisposition of any kind; may Thy blessing be specially suited to their needs. Bless Thy cause and kingdom everywhere this day. When the day is departing, comfort us with Thy love, fill our hearts with Thy peace, and when we fall asleep, may it be with the knowledge that the Sabbath has brought us a Sabbath day's journey up and heavenward. O Lord, bless us, and help us all the way, and hear us in our prayer, for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

GENESIS 45. 1-15.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried: Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.

2. And he wept aloud: and the

Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.

3. And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

4. And Joseph said unto his

brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

5. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

6. For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be eating nor harvest.

7. And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8. So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

9. Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:

10. And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

11. And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

12. And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

13. And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

14. And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

15. Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD, we come to worship in Thy Holy presence, through the new and ever living way, opened up for us by the sacrifice on Calvary. We rejoice in the fulness and freeness of the gospel of Thy grace; we praise Thee, that not only have we heard Thy glad message of salvation, but that Thou hast inclined our hearts to accept it, by the working in us of Thy Holy Spirit. Help us to shew forth our gratitude, by living to the praise and glory of Thy great and glorious Name. Here we are on the opening day of another week of work and labour; Lord, we know not what it may have in store for us, but our prayer is that Thou wilt graciously guide and prosper us in the discharge of all life's duties and responsibilities. May our work whatsoever form it may take be well done and well pleasing, not only to the sight of men, but above all, in the sight of God. Help us truly to live the Christian life, may our influence and example ever tell for good, help us to inspire others to do noble deeds, may we be the means of winning many for Jesus Christ. Let us not forget the Sabbath just gone; Lord, let its savour of holiness and communion not soon depart; let its uplifting power still remain in our hearts. Graciously hear us in our prayer at this time and do for us far exceeding what we ask or think for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

GENESIS 45. 16-28.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

16. And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

17. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

18. And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

19. Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

20. Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.

21. And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.

22. To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to

Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.

23. And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

24. So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

25. And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father.

26. And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.

27. And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:

28. And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

Prayer

"OUR FATHER which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven." In Thy goodness and mercy Thou hast sent another day to us, in which to work out our daily tasks, and therein also to live for Thee. We pray now, that Thou wilt help us to fulfil Thine expectations concerning us, Lord; forbid that we should disappoint Thee, and when we, alas, in our frailty and weakness often do, when we sin against Thee and grieve Thee, O be patient with us, and forgive us for Christ's sake. Keep us from becoming discouraged. When the road is rough, when the way seems long, and the outlook is dark, blessed Saviour, draw very near to us, and speak a word of comfort and help; say to us, "Be of good cheer, be not afraid. Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world," and because Thou hast overcome, we, trusting in Thee, shall also overcome. Strengthen and prepare us for the future; what it may have in store for us we know not; but, Lord, Thou knowest, and that is enough. Send each day to us as Thou

deemest best, and, when our last day comes on earth, may it likewise in Thy love for us in Christ, be our first in Heaven. And now, O Lord, hear this our prayer; we tarry, we linger at Thy throne of grace for Thy fatherly blessing; let it richly descend upon us. May our faces shine because we have been in Thy Holy presence, and Thine shall be the honour and the praise, now and for evermore. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

GENESIS 46. 1-7; 28-34.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac.

2. And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.

3. And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation:

4. I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.

5. And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

6. And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him:

7. His sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt.

28. And he sent Judah before him unto Joseph, to direct his face

unto Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen.

29. And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.

30. And Israel said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive.

31. And Joseph said unto his brethren, and unto his father's house, I will go up, and shew Pharaoh, and say unto him, My brethren, and my father's house, which were in the land of Canaan, are come unto me;

32. And the men are shepherds, for their trade hath been to feed cattle; and they have brought their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have.

33. And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, What is your occupation?

34. That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and also our fathers; that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

Prayer

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, we Thy children desire now to approach Thee in the exercise of prayer. Teach us, O Lord, to pray by Thy Holy Spirit, for we know not what to pray for as we ought. "Let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer." We come confessing our sins; often we have broken Thy holy law; forgive us, we humbly ask, for Jesus' sake. Help us to live more truly the Christian life; in Thy

strength may we daily gain new victories over sin, putting off the old man, the flesh, and putting on the new man, which is Christ Jesus. Now we specially ask for Thy blessings upon our home. Thou hast been pleased to give us many comforts, Thou hast showered upon us many mercies; for all we truly thank Thee, O Lord. Continue unto us Thy goodness, even in an increasing measure, for Jesus' sake. Withhold not from us Thy favours, we beseech Thee, because we are sinful oftentimes, and foolish in Thy Holy sight. If we have any special need, be pleased to supply it; if we have any special difficulty, be pleased to help us; if we have any peculiar sorrow, graciously comfort us. Another night is coming; let Thine angels hover over us through the darkness, may they guard our home and all Thou hast given us. Hear and graciously answer our prayer, for we ask all only in Christ's name. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

GENESIS 47. 1-12; 27-31.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. Then Joseph came and told Pharaoh, and said, My father and my brethren, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, are come out of the land of Canaan; and, behold they are in the land of Goshen.

2. And he took some of his brethren, even five men, and presented them unto Pharaoh.

3. And Pharaoh said unto his brethren, What is your occupation? And they said unto Pharaoh, Thy servants are shepherds, both we, and also our fathers.

4. They said moreover unto Pharaoh, For to sojourn in the land are we come; for thy servants have no pasture for their flocks; for the famine is sore in the land of Canaan: now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen.

5. And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee:

6. The land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest any men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

7. And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

8. And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou?

9. And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

10. And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

11. And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.

12. And Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to their families.

27. And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions therein, and grew, and multiplied exceedingly.

28. And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years: so the whole age of Jacob was an hundred forty and seven years.

29. And the time drew nigh that Israel must die: and he called his son Joseph, and said unto him, if

now I have found grace in thy sight, put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt:

30. But I will lie with my fathers, and thou shalt carry me out of

Egypt, and bury me in their burying place. And he said, I will do as thou hast said.

31. And he said, Swear unto me. And he swore unto him. And Israel bowed himself upon the bed's head.

Prayer

WITH reverence and godly fear we desire now to approach into Thy Holy presence, O Lord. As we lift our hearts and our voices to Thee in prayer, be pleased to hear and answer us, for Christ's sake. Have mercy upon us, for we have sinned grievously against Thee oftentimes; we have broken Thy Holy law, in thought, and in word, and in deed; forgive us, we humbly ask, and let the smile of Thy favour rest upon us. With grateful hearts we come, desiring to thank Thee for the countless mercies Thou hast bestowed upon us. By night and by day Thy tender care has been over us, and our returning wants Thou hast bountifully supplied. Lord, we thank Thee for all, and we plead now for new blessings, for further mercies. Entirely dependent we are upon Thy bounty, O Lord; forget, forsake us not. Open up our pathway in the future; meantime in this our present enable us to be faithful and earnest, true to every interest entrusted to our care, and may there be in store for us each one, if it please Thee, a large measure of temporal success and prosperity—but as Thou deemest best. Let our present experiences bring us on our way upward and Homeward. Lord, take care of us through all this day; especially at eventide be near to sustain and guard us and all our dear ones through the coming night. And we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for evermore. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

COLOSSIANS 3. 12-25.

Friday

Scripture Selection

12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering;

13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye

are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

18. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

19. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

20. Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

21. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

22. Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

23. And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24. Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25. But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Prayer

WE thank Thee, O Lord, for Thy Holy Word; for all its solemn words of warning; for all its messages of sweet encouragement and cheer; for all its admonitions and rules to direct us in our daily life; above all, for its wonderful plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. Let this portion we have just read be blessed unto us as a family. O enable us "to put on as the elect of God, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, forgiving one another, even as Christ forgave," so also may we. And, above all these things, may we put on love, which is "the bond of perfectness," and let the peace of God rule in our hearts. Let the word of Christ dwell in us richly in all wisdom. And whatsoever we do in word or in deed, may we do all in "the Name of the Lord Christ, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." For the blessings of this day, our Father, we thank Thee, for Thy bountiful provision for our returning wants, and for Thy tender, watchful care. Pardon our many sins, and now, kneeling before Thee, look down upon us with pity and compassion. Fill our hearts with joy and peace, and draw us close to Thee as the days pass by. Especially remember any who are absent; keep them, O Lord, wherever they may be. Bless all for whom we ought to pray, and we ask these mercies only in Christ's Name and for His sake, for He alone is worthy. Amen.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

1 THESSALONIANS 4.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

2. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

3. For this is the will of God,

even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

4. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

5. Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

6. That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter:

because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

8. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

9. But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

10. And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;

11. And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;

12. That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

13. But I would not have you to

be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not even as others which have no hope.

14. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we call upon Thee in prayer in the Name of Jesus; hear us, have mercy upon us for His sake, and blot out even as with a thick cloud all our iniquities. O help us to keep ourselves pure and holy, for Thou "hast not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness"; may our bodies indeed be the temples of the Holy Ghost. May our daily life be well pleasing before Thee; may we be quiet, minding our own business, working at our appointed tasks with diligence and honesty, and while concerned with the things of this present life may we always be mindful of the solemn events revealed to us in Thy Holy Word. There will be Thy coming again, blessed Saviour; with a shout shalt Thou descend from Heaven, "with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God," as Thine herald to wake the dead. On that resurrection morn may we, and all dear to us, whether of the dead, or of those alive at Thy coming, be caught up together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, "and so shall we ever be with the Lord." May this glorious future, this majestic and heavenly consummation, be our comfort and our edification now in this present. Let Thy blessing rest upon us on this closing day of the week; may Thy care surround us at nightfall, and may our sleep be sweet and refreshing, preparing us for the coming Sabbath. O God, we look to Thee, our faith and our hope are in Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

PSALM 27.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praises. Hymn 383

Scripture Selection

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
2. When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
3. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.
4. One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.
5. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.
6. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifice of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.
7. Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.
8. When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.
9. Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
10. When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.
11. Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.
12. Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.
13. I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
14. Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thy heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, we praise Thy Holy Name for this Sabbath day, for all its rest and peace, its joy and gladness, its holy privileges and means of grace; bless all abundantly unto our souls. May this day be unto us a sweet foretaste of the joys of Heaven. Help us to make the prayer of Thy servant truly ours also, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple. For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret of His tabernacle shall he hide me," and He shall set me upon a rock and when Thy voice whispers to us in the hour of service, "In My courts seek ye My face," may our hearts gladly respond, "Thy face, Lord, will I seek." O comfort and encourage us this day in waiting upon Thee, and so prepare us for the duties and responsibilities of the coming week. Teach us Thy way and our way, O Lord, and lead us in a plain path. O bless our home, Heavenly Father, on this Holy

Sabbath; let Thy peace and love and joy fill our hearts. Bless our friends and all dear to us to-day; the Lord graciously visit them with His salvation. Let Thy gospel have free course among the nations of the earth; may there be a great ingathering of souls into Thy Kingdom. During the night watches may we delight to meditate upon Thee, and on Thy gracious promises to us. And we ask all only in Jesus' Name. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

2 TIMOTHY J.

Monday

Scripture Selection

1. This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3. Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

7. Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

8. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

9. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

10. But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, charity, patience,

11. Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Listra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

12. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution:

13. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Prayer

WE thank Thee, O God, for the light of this new day; through the darkness of the bygone night Thou hast brought us, and here we are refreshed by the privileges of the Sabbath, and fitted to resume life's daily occupations. O Lord, we come for Thy guidance and Thy blessing upon our work, of whatsoever sort it is. Prosper us as Thou seest best. In the perilous times of these last days, Lord, keep us steadfast in the truth as it is revealed in Thy Holy Word, which "is able to make us wise unto salvation," through faith which is in Christ Jesus. May we never

doubt the Bible, may it be to us the Word of God, may we firmly believe that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Let the memories of the Sabbath linger in our hearts; let the holy influences of Thy House and of our home surround us as we go about our daily business, wherever, whatever it may be. May our faces shine with the reflection of our communion and fellowship with Thee. We pray for the pardon of our sins; Lord, take them all away in the precious blood that flowed on Calvary, and the favours we ask of Thee, O Lord, are only in the Name of Jesus, our blessed Redeemer, Thy well-beloved Son. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

MARK 9. 1-12.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

1. And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house.
2. And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.
3. And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.
4. And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.
5. When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.
6. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,
7. Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?
8. And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?
9. Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?
10. But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)
11. I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.
12. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, in Thy Holy Name we approach the mercy seat. Say unto us, each one, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," and thus shall our hearts be filled with praise and thanksgiving unto Thee. For the mercies of this day, now swiftly drawing to a close, we desire to thank Thee, O Lord. Often we, alas, so engrossed with our duties and our pleasures, our interests of various kinds, have forgotten Thee, but Thou hast not forgotten us; Thy benediction has ever rested upon us, Thy care has ever

surrounded us. Gratefully we thank Thee for all Thy gifts, and now that night has come, and soon we shall say farewell to the day for ever, may we feel that this has been a good day, spiritually and temporally, and so when we lay ourselves down to sleep may our hearts be at peace with Thee, with ourselves, and with one another. Open up our way in the future, prepare us for new duties, new responsibilities and greater blessings. Give unto us cleanness of mind and soundness of body, and thus fitted for the discharge of the work that falls to our lot, therein may we glorify Thee. Be gracious to any dear to us who are in sorrow or trouble of any kind; heal the sick; comfort the sad; rest the weary, and in Thy great love and mercy guide us so through life's journey that we shall all at the end reach the gates of pearl, and have an abundant entrance into the new Jerusalem, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

EPHESIANS 3. 22-33.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

22. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26. That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, we gather round our family altar at this eventide hour for Thy Holy worship. Be gracious unto us, for Jesus' sake, and blot out our many sins. Accept of our thanks for all the blessings of to-day; how kind, how loving Thou hast been, notwithstanding our follies and our sins. Use what we have wasted, save what we have thrown aside. Exalt those whom we have abased, care for those whom we have neglected, comfort those whom we have forsaken, and win for Thyself those

over whom our influence has been in vain. Let the words of Thy great apostle, inspired by Thy Holy Spirit, be blessed to us as a family. May we have grace and strength given us to fulfil the solemn exhortations that apply to us in our several relationships, as husband, wife and children; remembering we belong to Christ, "for we are members of His body." Guard us, O Lord, through this coming night; may we fear no evil through its silent watches; in the morning light call us back again for the active duties of life, strengthened and invigorated. Bless abundantly all dear to us, wherever their dwelling is, surrounding all with Thy tender, unceasing care, and when our work is finished, and our race is run, bring us in Thy great mercy home to be with Thyself for ever and ever; and Thine shall be all the praise and all the glory, Father, Son and Spirit, one God now and throughout eternity. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

DEUTERONOMY 34.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

1. And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the Lord shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan,

2. And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea,

3. And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar.

4. And the Lord said unto him, This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

5. So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord.

6. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

7. And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

8. And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

9. And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him and did as the Lord commanded Moses.

10. And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face,

11. In all the signs and the wonders, which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,

12. And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel.

Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, be merciful unto us now at this time as we bow before Thee, for Christ's sake. Thou art holy and righteous and true, O Lord, but of infinite compassion and tender mercy towards all them that truly fear Thee. As Thou wert with Thy

servant Moses during his life, and when he came to die to bless and comfort him, so, O Lord, wilt Thou be with us. Let us ever remember that Thou wilt surely punish sin; Thy law cannot be broken with impunity. Lord, forgive us, and grant unto us at the last an abundant entrance into the Heavenly Canaan, through the blood of the everlasting covenant. Let Thy blessing rest upon us throughout this day; may Thy care ever surround us. Lead us in the paths of righteousness for Thine own Name's sake. Likewise bless all near and dear to us; unite us all to Thyself by a personal faith in our living and glorified Lord. When night comes, remember us, O God, and watch over us through the darkness, and be pleased to awaken us in the morning, fitted for the work of another day. For Jesus' sake we ask these mercies. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

JOSHUA 1. 1-11.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2. Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3. Every place that the sole of thy foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4. From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

7. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

8. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

10. Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11. Pass through the host and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING God, we lift up our hearts to Thee in prayer; graciously hear and answer us, for Jesus' sake. We come to Thee with our difficulties and anxieties and cares; they are too many for us without Thine aid. As Thou didst

comfort and strengthen Thy servant Joshua of ancient story, so wilt Thou do unto us; say unto us, "Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." In the strength of this glorious assurance may we boldly face the future, for all shall be well; our way shall be prosperous, and we shall have good success. For the blessings Thou hast given us to-day, we thank Thee; for Thy care over us during the night that is past we bless Thee; and now, Lord, be with us still. Withhold no good thing from us, for we are in Thee, and would walk uprightly before Thee. May our sins be all forgiven, and with joy and gladness of heart let us live and labour to-day. Hear our prayer, O God, and answer us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK.

JOSHUA 6. 1-11.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

1. Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

2. And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

3. And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

5. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

6. And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the

covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord.

7. And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the Lord.

8. And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the Lord, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.

9. And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

10. And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

11. So the ark of the Lord compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

Prayer

O LORD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, another week has well nigh run its course; now we have come to its closing hours. How swiftly its days have slipped past; how kind and good Thou hast

been unto us, O Lord, for our needs and wants have ever been supplied, and we have lacked for nothing. For the measure of health and strength we have enjoyed, we praise Thee; many there are who suffer, many there are weak and afflicted, unable to discharge life's duties; we bless and praise Thy Holy Name for Thy tender dealings with us. Graciously continue unto us our accustomed mercies, for Christ's sake, and if it please Thee, O Lord, may the days to come have in store for us even greater and larger blessings than those we have received in the days that are past. Thou delightest to bestow Thy favours and blessings upon those who are Thine. We are Thine, O Lord; be gracious unto us, for Christ's sake, and when we come to the difficult places in life's journey, especially guide and direct us there, O Lord. Help us to be silent when Thou dost command, and when the hour for shouting arrives may we not be dumb. May we always be obedient to Thy Holy Will. Bless us now as we linger around Thy mercy seat; we would not go without Thy forgiveness, and without Thy peace. Grant these and every blessing unto us, O Lord, for Christ's sake. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

PSALM 46.

The Lord's Day

Singing. Book of Praise. Hymn 317

Scripture Selection

1. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
2. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
3. Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. *Selah.*
4. There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.
5. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.
6. The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.
7. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah.*
8. Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he hath made in the earth.
9. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.
10. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.
11. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah.*

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou art "our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea, though the waters thereof roar and be troubled;

though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof." Let these words of our lips, from Thy holy Book, be the experiences of our heart and life. May we know and feel in our every time of need that "the Lord of Hosts is with us, that the God of Jacob is our refuge," and when we reach a crossroad in life's journey, when danger threatens behind, and when disaster seems to lurk before, then whisper to our heart, "Be still and know that I am God." And wilt Thou bring us out of our troubles into a large place, for our hope and trust, O God, are only in Thee. Cheer and gladden our hearts throughout this holy Sabbath; may we enjoy fellowship and communion with Thyself through Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son. Bless to us the services of Thine House, the meditation and quiet of our homes. Draw very close to us at eventide, blessed Saviour, Thou who art the Sun of our soul. Watch over us and all whom we love during the night, and through all our earthly journey, until we reach Thy glorious presence. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

JOSHUA 6. 12-25.

Monday

Scripture Selection

12. And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord.

13. And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the Lord, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

14. And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

15. And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16. And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city.

17. And the city shall be accursed, even it and all that are therein, to the Lord: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

18. And ye, if any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

19. But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the Lord: they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.

20. So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

21. And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

22. But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

23. And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

24. And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the

vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord.

25. And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

Prayer

BLESSED be Thy great and Holy Name, O Lord, for all the records given us in Thy precious Word, of Thy dealings with and for Thy chosen people. Never hast Thou deserted those who put their faith and confidence in Thee, never have they been put to confusion. In the day of destruction that came upon Jericho, the household of one inhabitant was preserved through the signal of a thin red line, and Rahab, a notorious sinner, through Thy marvellous grace and mercy became one of the ancestry of our blessed Lord. Sinners, not righteous, are called by Thee, through Him, to repentance. Blessed be Thy Holy Name for the new and living way opened up, whereby the lost and guilty sons of men are restored to Thy presence and favour. Lord, now let Thy mercy be upon us; we would be reconciled to Thee through Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Saviour and our Redeemer. Pour down upon us now, O Lord, Thy rich blessing. Throughout this day, and all the days to come, guide and guard us, good Lord, and may we find in Thy presence at the end of life's journey our everlasting Home. And the glory shall be all Thine, now, henceforth and for ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

1 JOHN 5. 11-21.

Tuesday

Scripture Selection

11. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14. And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

16. If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

17. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

18. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

19. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

20. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know

him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

21. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Prayer

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, we thank and praise Thee for the record we have of eternal life, and that this life is in Thy Son. Thou hast told us, "he that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." Lord, we believe in the Name of the Son of God, and believing, according to Thy promise, we have eternal life. We have this confidence, O Lord, in Thee, that if we ask anything according to Thy will Thou dost hear us, and hearing, Thou wilt give us according to our desire, as Thou seest best, for Jesus' sake. Be merciful unto us now for His sake, and take away our sins. Bestow upon us of the riches of Thy grace, and enable us day by day to walk before Thee as Thy dear children, and to keep ourselves from idols. We desire to remember at Thy mercy seat those whom we love, those who are far away; Lord, bless and keep them all in Thy tender care. Now be with us throughout this day and the coming night. May our work be well pleasing in Thy holy sight, and may our sleep be as the sleep of a little child, calm and sweet. For Jesus' sake we ask all. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

1 THESSALONIANS 5. 1-23.

Wednesday

Scripture Selection

1. But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet the hope of salvation.

9. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10. Who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

12. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13. And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

14. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

15. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

16. Rejoice evermore.

17. Pray without ceasing.

18. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19. Quench not the Spirit.

20. Despise not prophesyings.

21. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22. Abstain from all appearance of evil.

23. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer

WE pray Thee, O Lord, that Thou wilt bless to us this reading from Thy Holy Word. Enable us to live as children of the light and the children of the day; may we be sober, "putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for an helmet the hope of salvation." We rejoice that Thou hast not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us and rose again; therefore let us rejoice evermore. Enable us to pray without ceasing; help us "to prove all things; to hold fast that which is good, and abstain from all appearance of evil." Forgive us our sins, O Lord, for we have broken Thy Holy law. May sin become more and more distasteful to us; may Thy law become more and more our delight. Continue to bless our home, and each one of us, whether younger or older. And may the very God of Peace sanctify us wholly; "and may our whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." We ask all in His name, and for His sake. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

JOHN 20. 19-31.

Thursday

Scripture Selection

19. Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them His hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

21. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

22. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

23. Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

24. But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in

the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou

hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

30. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31. But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Prayer

GRACIOUS MASTER, wilt Thou be pleased to visit us, as Thou didst Thy disciples; we dare not ask with Thy bodily presence, but let us feel Thee near us; let us hear Thee say to our waiting, trembling, yet worshipping hearts, "Peace be unto you." We confess, O Lord, our faith is weak at the best; there are mysteries in our holy religion which perplex and puzzle us, and we are unable to solve them. Lord Jesus, let not our minds be unduly concerned with these. May there burst through all our doubts and fears such a satisfying vision of Thyself as our crucified but risen Lord, that from our very inmost soul we shall cry like Thomas of old, "My Lord and my God." May we truly experience the blessedness of those who, not having seen Thee with the natural eye, yet have believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and thus believing have life everlasting through His Name. This is our earnest prayer, blessed Saviour, now at this time. May we rise from surrounding our family altar with Thy pardon and love and peace in our hearts. May we be animated with zeal for Thy service as never before; and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

JOHN 21. 1-14.

Friday

Scripture Selection

1. After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.

2. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

3. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

5. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.

6. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

7. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is

the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his kirtle's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

8. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.

9. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

10. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

11. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

12. Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

13. Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.

14. This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.

Prayer

BLESSED SAVIOUR, we are glad for the many indisputable proofs given in Thy Holy Word that Thou art risen. To Thy tired and disappointed disciples, fishing on the lake forever made holy by Thy sacred feet, Thou didst come and reward their toil by an abundant catch. How loving, how condescending, and how thoughtful Thou wert to prepare food for their comfort and sustenance, when the labours of the night were ended. Through the veil of their tears of joy they looked and knew Thee, while their hearts alone could whisper, "It is the Lord." We now at this quiet moment in our family circle, gathered for Thy worship, long for Thy presence. Let not our eyes be longer holden nor our vision blurred; may we see Thee with the eye of faith, and then our hearts also shall gladly say, "It is the Lord," for where two or three are gathered together in Thy Name Thou hast promised to be in their midst. Bless us now and pardon our many sins; feed us with the Bread of Life. In all our ways to-day, O Lord, direct and prosper us. Preserve us from all evil, and may we and those whom we love at the last join our hearts and voices with the great multitude of the redeemed surrounding Thy throne, and praise Thee for ever and ever. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

JOHN 21. 15-25.

Saturday

Scripture Selection

15. So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

16. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas,

lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

17. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto

him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

18. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldst: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldst not.

19. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

20. Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?

21. Peter, seeing him, saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?

22. Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me.

23. Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: Yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?

24. This is the disciple which testified of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.

25. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Prayer

BLESSED LORD, crucified for us on the cross, but risen again and exalted now for ever at God's right hand, we worship and adore Thee. Often we have grieved and offended Thee, yea, even denied Thee; Lord, have mercy upon us. Draw near us now in all Thy tenderness and love, and restore us to Thy grace and favour. Give unto us, unworthy as we are, a share in redemption work. Prepare our future here for us; make us sufficient for whatsoever joy or sorrow, sunshine or shadow, happiness or trial, it may have in store for us. Graciously prepare, dear Saviour, for us, even us, a mansion in Thy Heavenly Kingdom, when our journey now is ended, and our work here is done. Again we ask Thee to bless our home; let it ever be the object of Thy care and love; may it even be as a Bethany, whither Thou dost deign to come, and wherein Thou dost delight to dwell. Bless likewise with us all who are near and dear unto us. May we all live in personal faith in a living and glorified Saviour. And to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, shall be all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Worship and Prayers for Special Occasions

Thanksgiving

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 486

Scripture Selection

PSALM 147.

1. Praise ye the Lord: for *it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.*
2. The Lord doth build up Jerusalem: he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel.
3. He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.
4. He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by *their names.*
5. Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.
6. The Lord lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground.
7. Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:
8. Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.
9. He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.
10. He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man.
11. The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.
12. Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion.
13. For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee.
14. He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.
15. He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth: his word runneth very swiftly.
16. He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes.
17. He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?
18. He sendeth out his word and melteth them: he causeth his wind to blow, and the waters flow.
19. He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel.
20. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the Lord.

Prayer

GRACIOUS LORD, Thou who hast promised "that while the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease," we come now to worship and adore Thee, for Thou hast abundantly fulfilled Thy promise to us as a people. Thou hast granted us a bountiful harvest, so that there is bread for the sower and bread for the reaper. We would sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving, "who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for

the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains; who maketh peace in thy borders and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat"; let the exhortation of Thy servant be our delight to fulfil. "Praise ye the Lord, for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is comely." Accept our praise and thanksgiving at this time, O Lord, for all Thy great goodness unto us, and graciously pardon our unworthiness of the least of Thy mercies, for Christ's sake. Amen.

Christmas Day

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 20

Scripture Selection

ISAIAH 9. 1-7.

1. Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.
2. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.
3. Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.
4. For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.
5. For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.
6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The seal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

LUKE 2. 1-20.

1. And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
2. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)
3. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
5. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
6. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
7. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn.
8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the thing which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, on this day, which specially recalls and commemorates the birth of the Saviour of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, we desire to thank and praise Thee for Thine unspeakable gift. Ever since the fall of our first parents in Eden His coming was promised and foretold, and we adore Thee that, when the fulness of time came, He appeared, born as a little child, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. We rejoice for the multitude of the heavenly host that hovered over His nativity, and poured forth Divine music to a weary, waiting world. Their song is ever with us, O Lord; it is Thine own message of love and peace to us, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men." For all the gladness and happiness that cluster around this day, we praise Thee, O Lord; for our homes, for our comforts, for our family reunions and festivities, for the gifts we receive, and for the joy and privilege we have of giving to others. Sanctify all the events of this day to us each one; hallow our intercourse with Thy presence and blessing. May our hearts be filled with good cheer. Bless our friends, and may they all have a happy Christmas. Forgive our sins; and we will give Thee all the praise and all the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

New Year's Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 476

Scripture Selection

DEUTERONOMY 4. 25-40.

25. When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the

likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the Lord thy God, to provoke him to anger:

26. I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that

ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land wherunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

27. And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you.

28. And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

29. But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

30. When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

31. (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.

32. For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?

33. Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

34. Or hath God assayed to go

and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

35. Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him.

36. Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.

37. And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;

38. To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day.

39. Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

40. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever.

Prayer

"**LORD**, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations; a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night." We praise Thee, O Lord, for the countless mercies we received from Thy loving hand during the year that is gone. With grateful hearts we acknowledge Thy goodness unto us; many whom we knew and loved so well were called hence; we were permitted in Thy mercy to journey on, and here we are at the opening day of this New Year in the land of the living, permitted to lift up our hearts in worship to Thee. Our earnest prayer is, O Lord, that Thou wilt be our guide and friend as we step onward in the future. We know not what the New Year may have in store for us, but, O Lord, Thou knowest, and we lovingly trust Thee. Be merciful unto us, for Christ's sake. May it be a year of progress in temporal, but

especially in spiritual, concerns. Help us to keep Thy statutes, that it may go well with us, and that our days may be prolonged upon the earth. "The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace evermore." Amen.

Good Friday

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 46

Scripture Selection

MARK 15. 15-39.

15. And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

16. And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Prætorium; and they call together the whole band.

17. And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head,

18. And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!

19. And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him.

20. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him.

21. And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross.

22. And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.

23. And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not.

24. And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25. And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

26. And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

27. And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.

28. And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

29. And they that passed by rallied on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,

30. Save thyself, and come down from the cross.

31. Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save.

32. Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

33. And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

34. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

35. And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias.

36. And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.

37. And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

38. And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

39. And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God.

Prayer

GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, on this day, which commemorates Thine agony and death upon the Cross for us, we worship Thee and adore Thee. We thank Thee that Thou didst so love the world as to give Thine own life blood for its salvation. We cannot understand fully the mystery of Thy suffering, but with simple faith we believe it was for us Thou didst suffer and die, so that we might live eternally. We rejoice that redemption work is finished, that there is no more to be done, and that now we have access into the Holy of Holies through the rent veil of Thy flesh. Help us to love Thee, Lord Jesus, as we ought. Pardon wherein our love is so often faint and cold, and our gratitude so insincere, our service so feeble and lukewarm. Let this day be a solemn day as we think of Calvary, and all its pain and agony and death; let it also be a happy day, because our sins are all taken away in Thy precious blood. Let Thy blessing now descend upon us; let Thy peace be in our hearts, and give us more truly to know and understand how much Thou dost love us, even us. For Thine own Name's sake we ask it. Amen.

Easter Sabbath

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 59

Scripture Selection

JOHN 20. 1-30.

1. The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2. Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

3. Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.

4. So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

5. And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.

6. Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,

7. And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen

clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.

8. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.

9. For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

10. Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11. But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12. And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14. And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposeth him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have heard of him, hence, tell me where thou hast said him, and I will take him away.

16. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17. Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God and your God.

18. Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19. Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

Prayer

We lift our hearts to Thee, blessed Saviour, and adore and worship Thee as our crucified but risen Lord. We rejoice that Thou art risen indeed, Conqueror over death and the grave. This Easter Sabbath, in thought, we come also to Joseph's sepulchre, and we too find it empty, and we are filled with joy. In Thy glorious resurrection, we have the promise and example of our own, trusting in Thee. Lord, speak unto us this day a message through Thy Holy Word, through the services of Thine House, and through meditation in our homes. By faith thus we shall see Thy glorious form, and hear Thy voice saying unto us, for we are Thy disciples, "Peace be unto you," and we shall be glad even like those of whom we have read. Let this Easter day shed gladness and joy over all the week. May the Easter message tinge and influence our whole life; may we be the means of touching others, and winning them by our very gladness, for Thee and for Thy service, until we see Thee face to face. O Lord Jesus, may we indeed rejoice in this that is written concerning Thyself, "He is not here, He is risen, even as He said." Amen.

Ascension Day

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 76

Scripture Selection

LUKE 24. 44-53.

ACTS 1. 1-11.

44. And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46. And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47. And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48. And ye are witnesses of these things.

49. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

50. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

51. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, & carried up into heaven.

52. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

53. And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

1. The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2. Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3. To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4. And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of

the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7. And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel:

11. Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, we adore Thee not only as the risen Lord, but also as the exalted Saviour of men. Thou hast ascended up on high, leading captivity captive, and now Thou art seated at the right hand of God the Father, ever making intercession for us. We rejoice in Thy glorious exaltation, and with our feeble utterance we would join the hosts of heaven, as they unceasingly magnify and praise Thy Holy Name. Blessed Jesus, wilt Thou intercede with the Father for us, that for Thy Name's sake our sins shall be forgiven. Though now ascended up on high, Thou dost bend to earth a brother's eye, Thou dost sympathize with us in our griefs and sorrows, and Thou wilt to us send relief. Lord Jesus, we look to Thee, we trust Thee; be gracious and merciful unto us, we humbly ask, and enable us to rejoice in the blessed promise of Thy coming again. In like manner as Thou hast gone, we have the assurance Thou wilt return; help us truly to pray, "Even so come, Lord Jesus, come quickly." Give us grace and wisdom to watch, lest Thy coming be sudden and we be asleep. Hear and answer us, exalted Saviour, for Thine own Name's sake. Amen.

Promotion and Extension of the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, at Home and Abroad

Singing, Book of Praise, 444

Scripture Selection

PSALM 72. 1-19.

1. Give the king thy judgments,
O God, and thy righteousness unto
the king's son.

2. He shall judge thy people with
righteousness, and thy poor with
judgment.

3. The mountains shall bring
peace to the people, and the little
hills, by righteousness.

4. He shall judge the poor of the
people, he shall save the children
of the needy, and shall break in
pieces the oppressor.

5. They shall fear thee as long
as the sun and moon endure,
throughout all generations.

6. He shall come down like rain
upon the mown grass: as showers
that water the earth.

7. In his days shall the righteous
flourish; and abundance of peace
so long as the moon endureth.

8. He shall have dominion also
from sea to sea, and from the river
unto the ends of the earth.

9. They that dwell in the wilder-
ness shall bow before him; and his
enemies shall lick the dust.

10. The kings of Tarshish and
of the isles shall bring presents:
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall
offer gifts.

11. Yea, all kings shall fall down
before him: all nations shall serve
him.

12. For he shall deliver the needy
when he crieth; the poor also, and
him that hath no helper.

13. He shall spare the poor and
needy, and shall save the souls of
the needy.

14. He shall redeem their soul
from deceit and violence: and
precious shall their blood be in his
sight.

15. And he shall give, and to him
shall be given of the gold of Sheba:
prayer also shall be made for him
continually; and daily shall he be
praised.

16. There shall be an handful of
corn in the earth upon the top of
the mountains; the fruit thereof
shall shake like Lebanon: and they
of the city shall flourish like grass
of the earth.

17. His name shall endure for
ever: his name shall be continued
as long as the sun: and men shall
be blessed in him: all nations shall
call him blessed.

18. Blessed be the Lord God, the
God of Israel, who only doeth won-
drous things.

19. And blessed be his glorious
name for ever: and let the whole
earth be filled with his glory:
Amen, and Amen.

Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, we come before Thee at this time, specially to pray for the spread of the Kingdom of Thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We rejoice, we praise and magnify Thy Holy Name, that we have heard the blessed sound of Thy Gospel, and that Thou hast enabled us to accept of it by Thy Holy Spirit; but, Lord, there are millions who sit in outer darkness and in the shadow of death; on them the light of the gospel has never fallen. O Lord, we pray that Thou wilt thrust forth more and more labourers into the harvest, for the fields are white and waiting for the reapers. Own and bless those who have gone forth into distant lands, and the isles of the sea, to

tell the glad tidings. Lord, bless them in their work, comfort and sustain and guide them, so that many may learn of the gospel message, and be persuaded to believe. For the marvellous progress made in recent days we praise Thee, we glorify Thy Holy Name. "Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things, and blessed be His glorious Name for ever; and let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen."

Our Country and Empire

Singing, Book of Praise, Hymn 508

Scripture Selection

1 PETER 2. 11-25.

11. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

12. Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

13. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14. Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

15. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

16. As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

17. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

18. Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to

the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

19. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

20. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

21. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22. Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23. Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

24. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, by whom kings reign and princes decree justice, we humbly approach Thy throne of mercy, to pray for our King and Queen and all the members of the Royal Family. Richly endue them with Thy holy Spirit, so that in their exalted station they may bring honour and glory to Thy great and Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us in our several spheres of life to fulfil the injunction laid upon us in Thy Holy

Word, "Honour all men, love the brotherhood; fear God; honour the King." And bless, we beseech Thee, this our country, this Dominion of Canada. Let her exaltation among the nations of the earth be due to righteousness—family, civic, national. Prosper her industries, bless her enterprises, and abundantly reward her husbandmen. We thank Thee for the flag under which we live, for the empire to which we belong. "O Lord of Hosts be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget." May Jehovah be our God, and His glory be our supreme aim, now and evermore. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, one God, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Marriage

Scripture Selection

JOHN 2. 1-12.

1. And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:

2. And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.

3. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

4. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

5. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

6. And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.

7. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

8. And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.

9. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was:

(at the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

10. And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.

11. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and mani-

festeth forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

12. After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.

1 PETER 3. 1-7.

1. Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

2. While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

3. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

4. But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

5. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

6. Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

7. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, in the beginning Thou didst say, "It is not good that the man should be alone," and therefore Thou didst create from him, and for him, woman, and so the first human family was set up; we reverently worship Thee. We adore and bless thee, for Thy great, divine institution of marriage. O God, Thou who setteth the solitary in families, grant unto us now, on this solemn yet happy occasion, Thy blessing. Lord Jesus, in the days of Thine earthly ministry Thou didst grace a marriage feast with Thy presence; the joy and gladness of it were shared by Thee. We desire Thee, we beseech Thee, to come into our midst to-day; let the smile of Thy favour rest upon us; richly endow with Thy riches this man and woman who enter now into the marriage relation, and in their new life as man and wife may Thy blessings abundantly rest upon them. May their home be a happy home, and may they be "heirs together of the grace of life. And what God has joined together let not man put asunder." And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, the love of God our Father, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit, our Comforter, rest upon us, now and for ever. Amen.

Birth

Scripture Selection

LUKE 2. 15-33.

15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

21. And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising

of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22. And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

23. (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;)

24. And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

25. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28. Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29. Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31. Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32. A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

33. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

Prayer

O God, Thou who art the Creator of all things, we worship and adore Thee; we praise Thee for our divine origin, for Thine own hands fashioned us, and Thine own Spirit breathed into us, and thus we live and move in Thee. Thou art truly our Father, and we rejoice that we are Thy children, by creation as well as by adoption. Thy mystery of life is too great for us to solve, O God; "we are fearfully and wonderfully made, our substance was not hid from Thee, when we were made in secret, and wrought even like needlework in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see our substance, yet being unperfect, and in Thy book all our members were written, which in continuance were fashioned when as yet there were none of them." And Jesus Christ our Lord was born even as we, becoming in very truth not only our Saviour and Redeemer, but also our great Elder Brother. Lord, we praise Thee for Thy glorious revelation and marvellous love. Into this home there has come in Thy goodness and love a new life. We thank Thee for this gift of Thine, and we pray that the life of this little child may be spared, may it grow up to honor and glorify Thee, and be a joy and a comfort to its parents. Continue Thy preserving and restoring mercies unto the mother; in due time raise her up to discharge her manifold duties, and we ask all for Christ's sake. Amen.

Death

Scripture Selection

1 CORINTHIANS 15. 35-58.

35. But some men will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?

36. Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:

37. And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:

38. But God giveth it a body as he hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

39. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

40. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and

the glory of the terrestrial is another.

41. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

42. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption: it is raised in incorruption:

43. It is sown in dishonour: it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness: it is raised in power:

44. It is sown a natural body: it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

45. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

46. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

47. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

48. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

49. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

56. The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

57. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou who art the author of our life, in whose hand our breath is, humbly we approach Thy mercy seat in this solemn hour in the Name of Jesus. In Thine all-wise providence, in Thine infinite wisdom, it hath pleased Thee to call hence one from this home; may we be submissive to Thy Holy Will; enable us truly to say, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord." We thank Thee for the memory of the one who is gone; we rejoice in the assurance that he (or she) is with Christ, which is far better. For the promises of Thy Holy Word, Lord, we bless Thee. They tell us of the future life; death does not end all, it is only the beginning of eternity. With Thy servant the great apostle may we be able truly to say, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ." Comfort us who mourn, blessed Saviour, by a sense of Thy presence, and enable us to be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, until the day breaks and the shadows, earth's weary shadows of sin and death, forever flee away. Send to us the Comforter, blessed Jesus. For Thy Name's sake we ask all. Amen.

Sickness and Trouble

Scripture Selections

JOHN 11. 1-12; PSALM 81.

1. Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

2. (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

3. Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

4. When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

5. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

6. When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

7. Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.

8. His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

9. Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.

10. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.

11. These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

12. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.

1. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.

2. Bow down thine ear to me: deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.

3. For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

4. Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength.

5. Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

6. I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the Lord.

7. I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;

8. And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.

9. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly.

10. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

11. I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.

12. I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.

13. For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

14. But I trusted in thee, O Lord: I said, Thou art my God.

15. My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

16. Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.

17. Let me not be ashamed, O Lord; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, and let them be silent in the grave.

18. Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

19. Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

20. Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.

21. Blessed be the Lord: for he hath shewed me his marvellous kindness in a strong city.

22. For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes:

nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.

23. O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

24. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Prayer

LORD JESUS, Thou who art the great physician, we come to Thee, even as the messengers came from Bethany, from the bedside of Thy friend Lazarus, and we too would tell Thee, "He (or she) whom Thou lovest is sick." Not in bodily presence do we expect Thee to come to our aid, dear Master, but we plead with Thee to make Thy presence felt in this sick room; give hope and comfort to him (or her) who is sick, and, if it please Thee, wilt Thou be disposed so to bless the means and skill used for his recovery, that this sickness may not be unto death. Help us, have mercy upon us, O Lord, for we are in trouble. We trust in Thee, Thou who art our God; our times are in Thy hand; "Cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved." Let us be of good courage and strengthen our heart, for, O Lord, we hope in Thee. Come near us all, especially when night comes, and give quiet and refreshing sleep specially to him who is sick. Bless those who nurse and wait, make them equal to every duty, guide them in every doubt and difficulty. Say unto us each one, "Be of good cheer; it is I, be not afraid." We commit ourselves, dear Father, into Thy tender care, now and ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leaving Home

Singing. Book of Praise, Hymn 501.

Scripture Selection

PSALM 121.

1. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

2. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

5. The Lord is thy keeper: the

Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.

6. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Prayer

AND we too would lift up our eyes unto the hills at this time, even as Thy servant David did. Whence cometh our help now and at all times, save alone from Thee, O Lord—Thou who hast made Heaven and earth? The hour of parting and separation has come, and one of our family is about to go away; Lord, we earnestly ask Thee to surround him (or her) with Thy loving care. Let these sweet and blessed words of the Psalmist be his (or her) experience in future days, "The Lord is thy keeper, the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night; the Lord shall preserve Thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore." Bless not only him who goes, but comfort those who remain. Lord, if it be Thy loving will, bring us all together again, but if Thy wise and holy purpose be otherwise, then through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ may we all meet in Thy presence, where there is fulness of joy, and at Thy right hand, where are pleasures for evermore, to part no more for ever. Lord, grant it for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Absence

Scripture Selection

2 SAMUEL 13. 28-39.

28. Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon: then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.

29. And the servants of Absalom did unto Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man gat him upon his mule, and fled.

30. And it came to pass, while they were in the way, that tidings came to David, saying, Absalom hath slain all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left.

31. Then the king arose and tare his garments, and lay on the earth; and all his servants stood by with their clothes rent.

32. And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

33. Now therefore let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead: for Amnon only is dead.

34. But Absalom fled. And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there came much people by the way of the hill side behind him.

35. And Jonadab said unto the king, Behold, the king's sons come: as thy servant said, so it is.

36. And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of speaking, that behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice and wept: and the king also and all his servants wept very sore.

37. But Absalom fled, and went to Talmal, the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day.

38. So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three years.

39. And the soul of king David longed to go forth unto Absalom: for he was comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead.

Prayer

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we know that Thou art willing to hear us at all times when we call upon Thee for Christ's sake. We come now specially to pray for one of our family far away; he (or she) cannot come to us, and we may not go to him (or her); but, Lord, we can meet around one common mercy seat. Graciously watch over him day by day; prosper him in his temporal affairs; comfort him in his troubles; guide him in his difficulties, strengthen him in his temptations, and rejoice with him in his joys. May the seasons learned at home, and the services of Thy House, not be forgotten; may they have a great, a mighty influence for good upon his heart and life. Lord, lead him not into temptation, but deliver him from evil, for Jesus' sake. May he ever remember the Sabbath to keep it holy, and may prayer always be a part of his daily life. Bring him home again to us, O Lord, in peace and safety in due time, if it be Thy holy will. Bless us all here, and let us ever rejoice and be glad in Thee. For Thine own Name's sake we ask all. Amen.

Children's Prayer

- 1 GENTLE JESUS, meek and mild,
Look upon a little child.
Pity my simplicity,
Suffer me to come to Thee.
- 2 Fain I would to Thee be brought,
Dearest Lord, forbid it not.
In the kingdom of Thy grace
Give a little child a place.
- 3 Lamb of God, I look to Thee,
Thou shalt my example be.
Thou art gentle, meek and mild,
Thou wast once a little child.
- 4 Fain I would be as Thou art,
Give me thine obedient heart.
Thou art pitiful and kind,
Let me have Thy loving mind.
- 5 Loving Jesus, gentle Lamb,
In Thy gracious hands I am.
Make me, Saviour, what Thou art,
Live Thyself within my heart.

6 I shall then show forth Thy praise,
Serve Thee all my happy days.
Then the world shall always see
Christ the Holy Child in me.

7 O supply my every want,
Feed the young and tender plant;
Day and night my helper be,
Every moment watch round me.

(All or part of these verses to be committed to memory, with the following, and the Lord's Prayer.)

DEAR LORD JESUS, Thou wert once a little child like me, and Thou art pleased when little children pray to Thee. Make me a good boy (girl), help me to love that which is good, and shun that which is sinful. Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me. Bless father and mother, brothers and sisters, and all my friends. Keep me through the day, and watch over me during the night. Hear my prayer, dear Jesus, and forgive my sins, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

OR

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, I am a little child, and desire to pray to Thee. Help me to be a good boy (girl), to do that which is right, and to refuse to do that which is wrong. Bless me at home and at school, in my work and in my play. Bless papa and mamma, brother and sister, and all my friends. Write my name in Thy Book of Life. Keep me by day and through the night; forgive my sins, and all for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray, Thee, Lord, my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take, for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

Grace

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we desire to thank Thee for the mercies now before us. Bless this food to our use; pardon wherein we are unworthy, and accept of us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

OR

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou art the giver of every good and perfect gift. For this table spread for us now we desire truly to thank

Thee. Forgive wherein we are unworthy of Thy goodness, and graciously accept of us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

or

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, accept of our thanks for these blessings; we acknowledge they have come from Thy loving hand. Help us ever to eat and drink to Thine honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before Meat

BE PRESENT at our table, Lord,
Be here and everywhere adored;
These mercies bless, and grant that we
May feast at last in Heaven with Thee.

or

Our Father, bless the bounteous store
Wherewith Thou hast our table spread;
With grateful songs we Thee adore,
And bless the Hand by which we're fed.
Amen.

After Meat

WE THANK Thee, Lord, for this our food,
For life and health, and every good;
May manna to our souls be given,
The Bread of Life sent down from Heaven.
Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, which was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come again to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholick Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of Sins, the Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting.
Amen.

The Nicene Creed

I BELIEVE in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible, and in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one Catholick and Apostolick Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Doxology

PRAISE GOD from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

or

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
One God whom we adore,
Be glory as it was and is,
And shall be evermore.

Benediction—Old Testament

THE LORD bless thee, and keep thee:
The Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen.

Benediction—New Testament

AND NOW may the grace of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit the Comforter, rest upon, and abide with you all, now and evermore. Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

GLORY BE to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee.

We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory

O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son of the Father,

That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us;

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art Holy, Thou only art the Lord;

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of the Father. Amen.

Ten Commandments

And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

4. Remember the Sabbath^d. to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all

that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

5. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

6. Thou shalt not kill.

7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

8. Thou shalt not steal.

9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Jesus Said

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Suggested Order for Social Service

Singing.

The Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer, in unison.

Reading of Scripture—Matthew 18. 1-20.

Singing.

Prayer

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, we bless Thee that at all times, and in all places, we may worship Thee. Here we are assembled, a company gathered from many places, but with a common desire in our hearts. Let our service now be acceptable in Thy Holy sight at this time, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For His sake be pleased to pardon our many sins. Direct us, inspire us by Thy Holy Spirit in our various acts of worship; may all be for Thine honour and glory, and be profitable unto our souls. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Address.

Singing.

Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank Thee for this sweet hour of service and communion together. Be pleased to hear our prayers and to accept our songs of praise. Bless to us the reading and study of the portion from Thy Holy Word. Let Thy presence abide with us and Thy blessing rest upon us during all this day. For-

give our sins, O Lord, and accept of us now and ever, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

Singing or Doxology.

Prayer—Almighty God, graciously dismiss us now with blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EMPIRE'S ANTHEM

God save our Gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice
God save the King.

Our loved Dominion bless
With peace and happiness
From shore to shore.
And let our Empire be
United, loyal, free,
True to herself and Thee
For evermore.

Amen.

Marriage

Witness:

Changes of Residence

[illegible]

